



## VILLAGE NEWS AND VIEWS

Volume 48 Issue 5

Village of Decorative Painters

Southeastern Michigan

September/October 2025

Web page <https://villagepainters.net>

### Village of Decorative Painters 2025 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  
734-649-3262  
[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

### *President - Diane Stiller*

October is going to be a busy month! Please plan on attending the Member meeting.

We will be voting on the 2026 Board positions and Pence Policy changes to add Paint with Us. It is also time to renew your membership for 2026.

Cindy Mullins will be showing us how to do Diamond Dot as the After-Meeting Activity. There will be registration forms for the Holiday Luncheon and Judy Ribitch's Hello Winter class.

It's our last Member meeting of the year, so plan on being there! Read the newsletter for more details.



## 2025 Calendar of Events

Sept 20 & 21 Lydia Steeves via Zoom  
color pencil with pan pastel  
Dec 4 Holiday luncheon

## 2026 Calendar of Events

Feb 7 Judy Ribitch, meeting activity  
June 27, 28 Paulette DiGesare  
Sept 25-27 Fall Retreat, It's A Colorful World

### Membership Renewal for 2026

Members who renew their membership for 2026 by the October meeting will have their names entered into a drawing to win this lap desk.



*Please remember to take your pence*

### 2025 Member Meetings

**At Livonia Senior Center**

**Saturdays, 10 am—1 pm**

**February 1,**

**Tuesday April 8, 5:30—8:30**

**June 7, August 2,**

**October 4, Dec 4 luncheon**

### Board Meetings 2025

**6:30 pm Thursdays by ZOOM**

**Jan 2, March 6,**

**May 1, Sept 4, Nov 6**

### 2026 Member Meetings

**At Livonia Senior Center TBA**

**Saturdays, 10 am —2 pm**

**February 7, April 4, June 6,**

**August 1, Oct 3, Dec 3 luncheon**

### Board Meetings 2026

**6:30 pm Thursday by ZOOM**

**Jan 8, March 5, May 7,**

**July 2 if needed, Sept 3, Nov 5**

“The secret of success in life is to eat what you like and let the food fight it out inside.” - Mark Twain

Diane will bring her delicious Sausage and Sauerkraut. Please bring what you like for our Fall table. Thank you so much.

Karen

## OCTOBER Meeting Activity

Cindy Mullins will be instructing us in decorating notebooks with Diamond Dots. The notebooks, which will include all the supplies, can be purchased for \$12 from Cindy n if she has extras. Bring your \$12, a pen, and scissors, to the meeting.



## September Birthdays

3 Pat Helwig

8 Doreen McLain

9 Nancy Thomson

12 Cindy Williams

20 JoAnn Smith

24 Connie Vasilnek

## October Birthdays

20 Dawn Billiau

21 Gail Barton

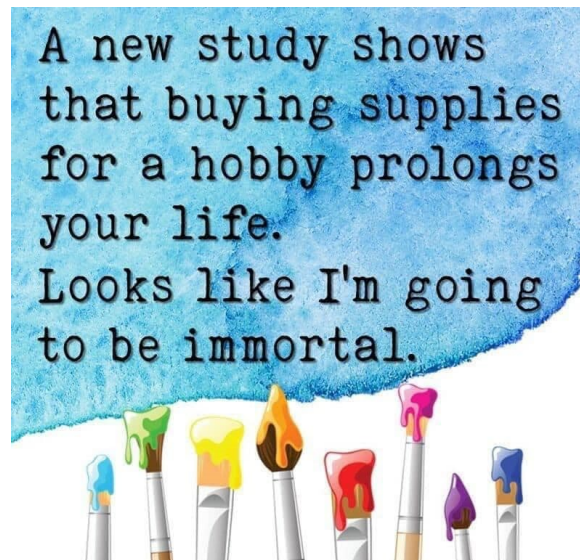
24 Paula Atkinson



We will be voting for your 2026 Board of Directors. Some positions still need someone to step in for those fun activities.

designed by:

Board Positions	2026
<b>Officers</b>	
President	Diane Stiller
Vice President	Nancy Silver
Treasurer	Kathy Fischer/Joan Mueller
Secretary	Linda Christopher
<b>Elected Positions</b>	
Education	Diane Stiller
Library	Teresa Palmer
Membership	Pat Butler
Newsletter	Linda Morgan
Spring Fling	Diane Stiller
Website Administrator	Michelle Handley
<b>Appointed Positions</b>	
Audit	Cathy Uhring
Fall Retreat	Paula Atkinson
Holiday Party	TBA
Hospitality	Dawn Billiau
LSC Liaison	Margaret Pedersen
Memory Boxes	Cindy Mullins
Pence	Margaret Pedersen
Picnic	TBA
Sunshine	Connie Vasilnek
Treasure Boxes	TBA



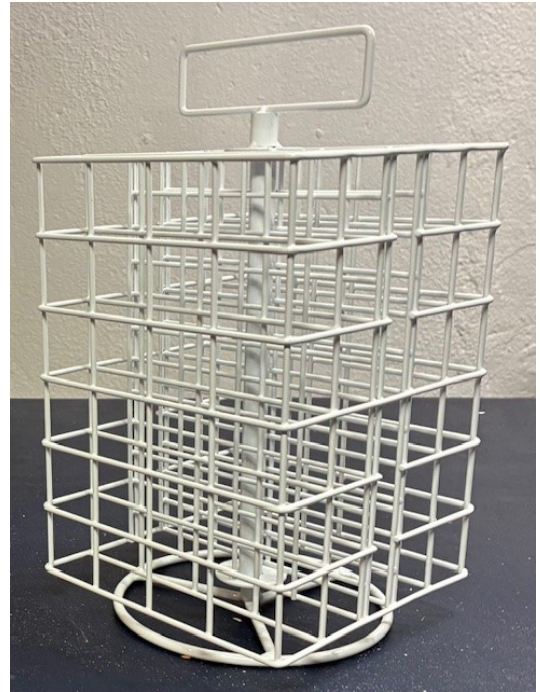


## Village of Decorative Painters - Member Pence Raffle October 4, 2025

**Bring your pence! Or buy pence from Margaret 6 for \$5.**



Masonite board 23.5x12x1.5 & Gladys Neilsen pattern



4 individual raffles

4 paint racks that hold 48 bottles of paint



Oval tray 15.5x11x3/4 & Paulette DiGesare pattern



3 individual raffles of 5 Suncatchers each

4" Glass Suncatchers. Only one in each grouping is ready to paint.

The other 4 suncatchers in each group are blank glass so you can choose your own medium and design. Prepping directions are included

Proposed additions to Pence Policy: Add Paint with Us event

#	Pence Amount	Activity	Description
4	1	Gen	Bring snacks to any Member Meeting or seminar, excluding the August Picnic, <b>Paint with Us</b> or any function/seminar when we all bring a "dish to share"; only 1 pence per day regardless of # of items brought.
5	1	Gen	Set up AND/OR take down of tables/chairs at a Member Meeting or seminar. Excludes Chairs or Seminar Coordinator. A non-member's help will earn 1 pence for a member with Chair's approval.
7	1	Gen	Attend a Paint-In. 1 pence awarded when completed item handed in regardless of # of items.
8	1	Gen	Donate items to a Group Basket/Gift; only 1 pence regardless of # of items donated)
9	1	Gen	Serve on a Planning/Policy Committee; only 1 pence for duration of committee. Excludes Chair of Committee. (For example: Committees for Fall Retreat, Pence Policy, Holiday Party, <b>Paint with Us</b> , Vice President)
13	1-2	Event	Donate a painted item for a raffle, Each. (1-2 pence per item at discretion of Chair based on time and complexity) To include but not limited to: Fall Retreat, Holiday Party, Picnic, <b>Paint with Us</b>
17	1-3	Event	Awarded for special projects at discretion of Chair based on time and complexity. To include but not limited to: Fall Retreat, Holiday Party, Picnic, Spring Fling, <b>Paint with Us</b>
18	1 per 1/2 hour	Event	Volunteer to work <b>during</b> an event including set up and tear down. Excludes Chairs for event. Holiday Party: Pence Raffle, Ornament Exchange, Donations. Spring Fling: Boutique, Auctions, Raffles, Photographer, Assistants to Chairs, Greeters, MC. <b>Paint with Us: Help where needed, especially with guests.</b> A non-member's help will earn 1 pence for a member with Chair's approval.
20	3	Gen	Host a Paint-In at your home
22A	3	Event	<b>Paint with Us Committee Chairs: Set Up/Tear Down, Raffle, Gifts/Door Prizes, Snacks</b>
26	8	Board	Serve on the Board of Directors as an Appointed Chair for a calendar year for Holiday Party, Picnic, Pence, Memory Box, Treasure Box, LSC Liaison, Fall Retreat and <b>Paint with Us</b> . If there's a Co-Chair, then Chair and Co-Chair to split pence. Fall Retreat Chair to receive pence each year served on the Board, not just year of the event.





## Education – Diane Stiller

We spent two great days painting with David Bailey. The classes were very laid back and we all finished our paintings early. David showed us how to use a sponge to smooth out hard lines and blend the colors. We also splashed water with our fingers onto the painting and pounced a rag to absorb the water in order to create various shaped water drops. We used a toothbrush to not only splatter paint onto the surface, but used the side of the brush to create lines that ground the people to the pavement and rays of light from the lamp post. The turtle turned out to be a lot of fun. The background was more abstract, so we boldly flicked paint onto the canvas with our brush, used the sponge to even out hard lines, painted bubbles, and then David finished it off with airbrushing. Very enjoyable and technique packed classes.



## Coming Up Next in 2025

September 20 & 21 Lydia Steeves via **Zoom**, color pencil with pan pastel

## Coming Up Next in 2026

February 7 Judy Ribitch: Hello Winter Onsite

June 27 & 28 Paulette DiGesares: Onsite and Zoom

**To recap:** After the June vote for Big Brushes, Diane contacted Ros Stallcup and Rosemary West to teach in 2026 and discovered that both of them no longer travel teach, but could do Zoom classes. Maxine Thomas was then contacted and she does still travel teach but not on Sunday which is problematic as the Senior Center won't allow us to schedule a room on Friday.

Another vote was held at the August meeting, with Zoom classes specified for Ros and Rosemary. Members were not in favor of Zoom classes. The top two votes are now: Wendy Fahey and Maxine Thomas. Diane will see if perhaps the new Senior Center will allow us to schedule a class on Friday. If she is unsuccessful, then Holly Hanley is the next in line.

**Latest update:** We still don't know anything about the move to the new Senior Center and so can't find out if we can book Friday for Maxine Thomas. I have now moved on to Holly Hanley. I have contacted both Wendy Fahey and Holly Hanley to see if they are willing to travel teach and am awaiting their responses.

We are going to do something a little different with the February 7 Member meeting. If you remember we used to have a very short business meeting and then a class for the balance of the time for our April meetings. We are going to do this for the February meeting and see what members think. Check out the registration form for the Hello Winter project by Judy Ribitch. The deadline to register is October 31 so that we can then order the surfaces. The surfaces can be picked up at the Holiday Luncheon on December 4 (between 11 and noon if not attending the luncheon)

## Save the Date



“It’s a Colorful  
World”

September 25, 26, 27, 2026

Bring your paint and join us for the  
9th Biannual Village of Decorative  
Painter’s Fall Retreat.



Village of Decorative Painters presents **Lydia Steeves**  
**Color Pencil with Pan Pastel Background**

Saturday & Sunday, September 20 & 21, 2025

**ZOOM class only**



For Chipper Lovers: Saturday, Sept 20



Two 4" x 4" Critter Squares: Be Mine and Bobbing in Beans: Sunday, Sept 21



Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (EST)

**Zoom class only**

Surface: You provide

Color Pencils & Pan Pastels: You provide

Cost: Member \$30 (no limit on pence); Non-Member \$40

Deadline: September 12, 2025

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

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

Keep top portion for your records. Include bottom portion with your check.

**Lydia Steeves: Saturday & Sunday, September 20 & 21, 2025: ZOOM class only**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, Sept 20 Chipper Lovers \_\_\_\_\_  
\$30 Member; \$40 Non Member

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

Sunday, Sept 21 Two Critter Squares \_\_\_\_\_  
\$30 Member; \$40 Non Member

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

**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: Members Only**  
**Saturday, February 7, 2026, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**  
**At the Livonia Senior Center (Old or New Location TBA)**



Cost: Member \$20; No pence: this is for surface, embellishments, and pattern

Deadline: October 31, 2025 so we can order surfaces.

Pick up surfaces at Holiday Luncheon on December 4 (between 11 and noon if not attending luncheon)

Please remember that all fees are non-refundable.

Contact Diane Stiller (313) 720-1836 or [dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions or cannot attend.

**Judy Ribitch: Hello Winter on Saturday, February 7, 2026**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \_\_\_\_\_

***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 Frosty Friends Christmas Luncheon



Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025 12-4 PM  
St. Mary's Cultural Center  
18100 Merriman Road, Livonia MI 48152  
Just north of 6 Mile, our entrance  
is the burgundy awning around the back.

\$30 for Members - \$35 for Guests  
Registration deadline November 20, 2025

Family Style Luncheon includes:  
Chicken Supreme, Mostaccioli with Marinara  
Sauce, Garden Salad, Bread and Butter,  
Relish Tray, Roasted Potatoes,  
Green Beans, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Soft  
Drinks, Water.  
Vegan or Gluten Free, circle option below.

Kathy and Pat will be collecting donations in the parking lot near the  
burgundy awning for Toys for Tots, Little Free Library, Non-Perishable Food  
Items and Cash Donations for the Salvation Army.  
Memory Boxes and Treasure Boxes will be displayed and accepted inside.

We will have our Handpainted Christmas Ornament Exchange, Pence Raffle  
(extra tickets will be available for \$1 each), and the Centerpiece Drawing.

---

Village of Decorative Painters Frosty Friends Christmas Luncheon Registration Form

\$30 Members - \$35 Guests

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the First Name you wish to appear on your name tag: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Vegan

Gluten Free

Make check payable to : Village of Decorative Painters.

Mail to Margrette Farah, 38147 Huron Pointe Drive, Harrison Twp, Mi 48045

Questions? Call or text Sam 586-996-6476, Eileen 586-419-7921, Kathy 248-953-3180  
or Paula 248-798-5312



## Oklahoma Palooza 2025: Flower Power

Seven members attended this painting convention in Oklahoma City: Judy Ribitch, Sam Farah, Kim Eash, Mary Jane Wells, Kay Fradeneck, Diane Stiller, and Jean Trimpe. What made this convention extra special was that we won 1<sup>st</sup> Place for our table at the banquet and Jean Trimpe won 1<sup>st</sup> place for best costume: as a clown.



On the bus: Jean, Diane, Kim, Mary Jane and Kay



Kay, Kim, and Mary Jane stylin' for best costume



We painted the placemats and Kim painted the mushrooms. Sam created the centerpiece: All you need is Love and a Paintbrush. The hippie is sitting on a world globe and revolving on a turntable,





Sam, Jean, and Judy



Kim, Mary Jane, and Sam



Jean and Kim

## Autumn Picnic: Welcome to the Garden

Chaired by Kathy Helm, Linda Pinneo, and Denise Robert

The Trunk Sale started at 9 am in the parking lot as usual. They did an outstanding job decorating the tables with loads of flowers and painted garden signs that were distributed to winners via a card game. Thanks to Denise Robert and Darlene Greenwood who helped them paint the garden signs and to everyone who contributed a dish to share. They spent \$97 of their \$100 budget. It was a beautiful event and fun! Check out the photos.





## Paint with Us: Terracotta Pot Contest

### Entries



Rochelle Lukas



Cheri Boone



Kathy Ziemba

### Non-Members



Rochelle Lukas



Kathy Ziemba

### Pence Raffle





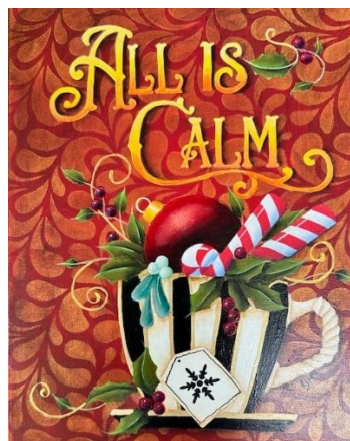
*Scrapbook Memories*  
August 2, 2025 Member Meeting  
Show & Tell



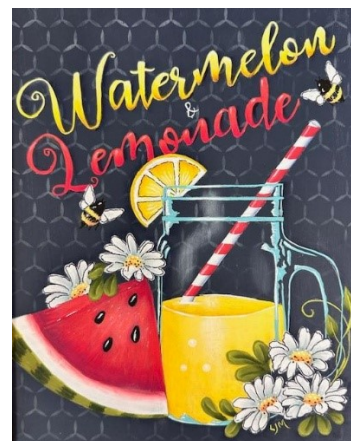
Cindy Williams



Sam Farah



Linda Morgan



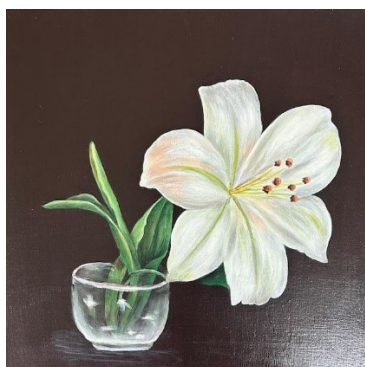
Denise Robert



Diane Stiller



Eileen Carroll



Susan Rhodes



Patty Neu



Dawn Billiau





Darlene Greenwood



Kathy Ziemba



Karen Lavella



Maureen VanBuhler

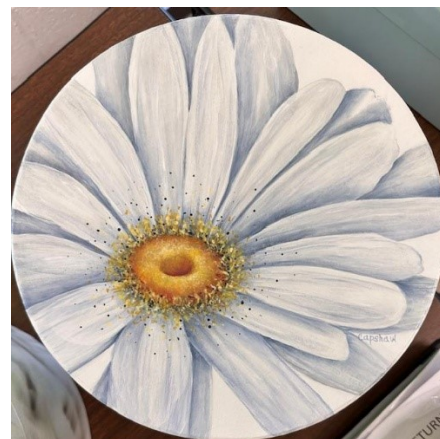
## Memory Boxes



Linda Morgan



Pat Helwig

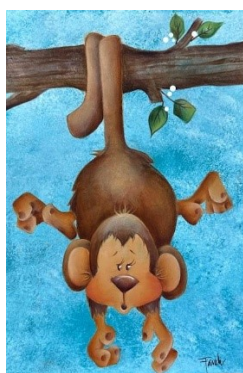


Karen Capshaw

## Treasure Boxes



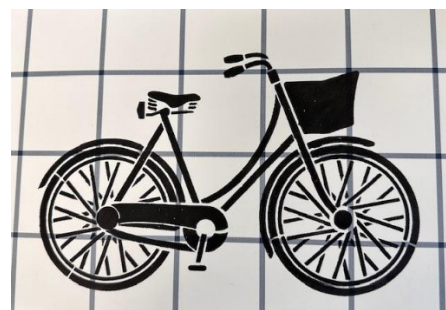
Eileen Carroll



Sam Farah



Linda Morgan



Darlene Greenwood



## Village of Decorative Painters

### Membership Application for January 1 – December 31, 2026

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, 2025

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 By-laws, 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 \_\_\_\_\_