



VILLAGE NEWS AND VIEWS

Volume 49 Issue 2

Village of Decorative Painters

Southeastern Michigan

March/April 2026

Web page <https://villagepainters.net>

Village of Decorative Painters 2026 Board

President

Diane Stiller
313-720-1836
dianestiller@sbcglobal.net

Vice President

Nancy Silver, in spirit

Secretary

Linda Christopher
734-718-3745
lindachristopher60@gmail.com

Treasurer

Kathy Fischer
734-649-3262
fischerk@umich.edu

Joan Mueller
248-349-5889
joankmueller@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Linda Morgan
734-765-5735
morganlj@sbcglobal.net

Membership

Pat Butler
734-944-1918
patbutler9@gmail.com

President - Diane Stiller

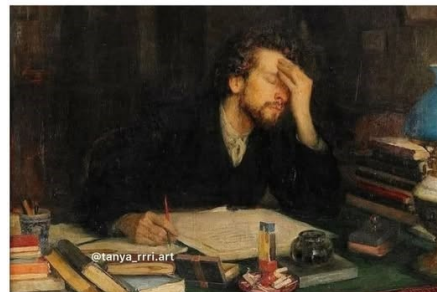
We will celebrate the lives of Janis Creswell, Sally Thirjung, and Charlene Wenzel at the April Member meeting. Please be prepared to share a memory or bring items that these individuals painted.

Past members including Cathy McClendon, Loretta Huebler, Maryann Muir, and Barbara Broadley have been invited to attend the April Member meeting. Other past members may be interested in attending so please feel free to ask them; they don't have to stay for the entire meeting. April's meeting will be more of a social gathering. We will be painting Memory and Treasure boxes and Diane will bring her sausage and sauerkraut. There will also be a pence raffle and lots of Free Stuff.

Cindy Mullins and Michelle Handley will have signup sheets for Spring Fling Baskets and Silent Auction.

Artist Life:

When you dip your paintbrush
into your tea



2026 Calendar of Events

May 23, 24	Holly Hanley, Onsite
June 27, 28	Paulette DiGesare, Onsite and Zoom
Sept 26-28	Fall Retreat, It's A Colorful World
Dec 3	Holiday luncheon



Hi Ladies,

The registration form for the Fall Retreat September 25, 26, 27, 2026 is here.

Please join us for this [fun](#) weekend of painting and fellowship. You won't be disappointed!

Please note registration forms at the meeting had the incorrect date!

Any questions – Paula Atkinson 248-798-5312 or paulawog43@aol.com



2026 Member Meetings

Livonia Senior Wellness Center
15100 Hubbard Street in Livonia

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



Our August Meeting Theme is

Pumpkin Patch Picnic.

Your committee members are Karen Capshaw, Cathy Uhring, Pat Helwig, Cindy Williams and Doreen McLain.

We will have a pumpkin paint-in. A prepped pumpkin surface will be provided. Just bring your regular painting supplies and your own design. The pumpkin outline pattern will be in the June newsletter. You must be present at the picnic to receive the surface. The agenda for the day will include a trunk sale, meeting, painting, pot luck (please bring your favorite recipe to share), and a pence raffle of painted pumpkin related items donated by members.

More information *to follow*.



April Meeting Activity

We will be painting memory and treasure boxes at the April meeting. Bring your prepped box and your own paint. I will have some boxes with patterns if someone didn't have a chance to pick one up at February meeting.

If anyone would like to donate anything for spring fling baskets I will be glad to take it. Just have your name with it so you can get pence. I need baskets for putting goodies in. If you have any baskets you would like to get rid of I will take them.

Thank you - Cindy



Please remember to take your pence

Margaret

Please bring a snack or your favorite recipe for the hospitality table.

Your generosity is always appreciated.

Don't forget to sign your name to the sign up sheet for pence.



Birthday Greeting PNGs by Vecteezy

March Birthdays

2 Kathy Helm

13 Jean Trimpe

14 Louise Hastings

15

April Birthdays

14 Sandy Tyo

30 Margaret Pedersen

VDP Pence Raffle for the April 2026 Meeting.

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

#1



Education – Diane Stiller

Thirty-two members painted Hello Winter with Judy Ribitch. It was our first time meeting in the new Livonia Senior Wellness Center. Kudos to Judy for teaching under less than ideal circumstances since the TV didn't work and the movie screen wasn't available. Despite that everyone kept up with Judy's instructions and did a great job on their piece. Hope everyone brings their finished piece to Show & Tell since I completely forgot to take a group photo.

Coming Up Next

May 23 & 24	Holly Hanley	Onsite
June 27 & 28	Paulette DiGesare:	Onsite and Zoom

Registration forms were emailed to all members. Surface information was just received from both artists and Diane will be emailing that to all members along with the registration forms again.

Date: February 25, 2026 at 7:49:37 PM EST
To: undisclosed-recipients;
Subject: HOOT - A Tale of Greys or Grays – a piece of important painting trivia...

Folks,

This is an interesting discovery about the spelling of the word for the neutral color between black and white.

Miriam Webster reports this as:

GRAY and GREY are both common spellings for the neutral color between black and white. Gr"A"y is more frequently used in American English. Gr"E"y is more commonly used in Canada, the UK and elsewhere.

Why is this important?

DecoArt uses the GREY spelling so if searching and using Gray on a website to place an order, it may not be found.

Sand Grey is misspelled (according to DecoArt) in the newsletter as it appears in Maxine Thomas' paint list and in all three of her pattern packets as *Sand Gray*.

ALL of DecoArt's Greys are spelled GREY!

If ordering from the DecoArt website, Sand Grey is not found in the Neutrals but is found among the Greys.

End of the tale of the Grays and Greys.

Village of Decorative Painter's

Fall Retreat 2026



“It’s a Colorful World”

When: Sept. 25, 26, 27, 2026

Where: Skyline Camp and Conference Center, 5650 Sandhill Rd., Almont, MI 48003

Time: Check-in Friday 3:00 pm through Sunday 4:00 pm (check out of room by 11:00)

Includes: 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, hayride and teaching fees

Cost:	Members	Non-Members
	\$220	\$235

Linens available for \$15

A maximum of 25 pence may be used.

Registration open now.....Deadline: August 8

Once again, we will be having a raffle on Sunday morning to benefit Skyline.

PAINTING CHALLENGE: You’ll receive a fabric bird when you register to decorate and create a piece of art any way you would like.

Friday Night: Paint a Mandala Stone

This will be a paint on your own project.

4" round rock, paint and many ideas will be available. Cost - \$3



Saturday Classes

Sam Farah - Paint and Pencil both projects.



*Erika Joanne - Bristol Butterfly & Fallberry Moth
Paints will be provided, a list of pencils will be sent to you.*

Cost - \$18 for both kits

Judy Ribitch - Screen/ Acrylic w/ Texture Paste



*Holly Hanley - Cosmos & Dragonfly
All supplies provided.*

Cost - \$10

Sunday Classes

Marilyn Cunningham - Acrylic on Wood/Metal



6"x6"x17" Cost - \$19

You will provide the paint.

Judy Ribitch - Acrylic on a Bisque Tile



Tracy Moreau - Ox Eyed Daisy 8"x8" Cost - \$18

All supplies provided.

"It's a Colorful World"

Sept. 25, 26, 27, 2026

Name _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone # _____

Members \$220 _____ Non-Member \$235 _____ Total \$ _____

Friday Night Mandala Rock (\$3) _____ extra surface _____ Total \$ _____

Please check the class you would like to take. You may order the pattern/kits of the other class if you wish.

Saturday Classes: *choose one project*

Bristol Butterfly & Fallberry Moth (\$18) _____ extra kits _____ Total \$ _____

Cosmos and Dragonfly Screen (\$10) _____ extra kit _____ Total \$ _____

Sunday Classes: *choose one project*

Marilyn Cunningham Bird House (\$19) _____ extra kit _____ Total \$ _____

Ox Eye Daisies (\$18) _____ extra kit _____ Total \$ _____

Linens (\$15) _____ Total \$ _____

Total \$ _____

A list of paints and supplies will be emailed to you by your teacher.

Please note any food allergies or special dietary needs.

Roommate Preference: _____

All rooms have 2 bunk beds sleeping 4 max except for the 4 corner rooms that have 3 bunk beds sleeping 6 max. We will be only using bottom bunks. You may want to bring a foam topper for your mattress.

Any questions call Paula Atkinson 248-798-5312 or paulawog43@aol.com

Make checks payable to: Village of Decorative Painters

Mail registration to: Kathy Fischer 8486 Warner Rd. Saline, Mi 48176 734-649-3262



1:00 pm - Social Time and Cash Bar

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 Auctions 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.

\$38 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.

Scrapbook Memories

February 7, 2026 Member Meeting

Show & Tell



Karen Capshaw



Cindy Williams



Patty Neu



Darlene Greenwood



Linda Morgan



Connie Vasilnek



Tammy Kubat



Judy Ribitch



Marilyn Cunningham



Tammy Kubat



Doreen McLain



Sam Farah



Tammy Kubat



Linda Morgan



Dianne Hogrefe



Tammy Kubat



Judy Ribitch

Memory & Treasure Boxes



Pence Raffle



Village of Decorative Painters presents *Paulette DiGesare*

Saturday & Sunday, June 27 & 28, 2026

Two Options: On-Site at the Livonia Senior Wellness Center **or on ZOOM**



Ribbon Floral: Saturday, June 27



New Pattern Birdhouse: Sunday, June 28

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (EST)
On-Site: Livonia Senior Wellness Center
15100 Hubbard
Livonia, MI 48154

ZOOM is an option

Surface: You provide
Acrylic Paints: May be provided, but not for Zoom classes
Class will be recorded

Cost: Member \$40 (no limit on pence); Non-Member \$60
Deadline: June 12, 2026

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 if you have questions.

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

Paulette DiGesare: Saturday & Sunday, June 27 & 28, 2026

Name _____

Saturday, June 27, Ribbon Floral _____
\$40 Member; \$60 Non Member

Phone # _____

Sunday, June 28, Birdhouse _____
\$40 Member; \$60 Non Member

Email _____

Total Enclosed _____

Circle one: On-Site Class OR ZOOM class

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 *Holly Hanley*
 Saturday & Sunday, May 23 & 24, 2026



Poppies: Saturday, May 23



Dragonflies: Sunday, May 24

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (EST)
 On-Site: Livonia Senior Wellness Center
 15100 Hubbard
 Livonia, MI 48154

Surface: You provide
 Acrylic Paints: May be provided

Cost: Member \$40 (no limit on pence); Non-Member \$60
 Deadline: May 8, 2026

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 if you have questions.

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

Holly Hanley: Saturday & Sunday, May 23 & 24, 2026

Name _____	Saturday, May 23, Poppies _____ \$40 Member; \$60 Non Member
Phone # _____	Sunday, May 24, Dragonflies _____ \$40 Member; \$60 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

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 _____