



VILLAGE NEWS AND VIEWS

Volume 49 Issue 5

Village of Decorative Painters

Southeastern Michigan

September/October 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

Our next Member meeting is October 3 and we will be voting for Board positions for 2027. Please be sure to renew your membership for 2027 so that you can participate in the Halloween gourd painting class taught by Doreen McLain.

If anyone has **Free Stuff** to bring, please let me know before the meeting so we can be sure to have enough tables. I am bringing 3 large boxes of surfaces. Please remember to bring your **Pence** for the raffle which will include a doll's wardrobe case that has 3 drawers and a rod to hang clothes.



Diane Stiller designed and painted this 4' x 6.5' dog house for the T.A.I.L.S. animal shelter. Eighteen businesses on Macomb Street in Grosse Ile participated in a contest celebrating the Dog Days of Summer and this entry won **3rd Place**. T.A.I.L.S. plans to hang this painting on their entrance wall and take it along to other fundraising events.

2026 Calendar of Events

Sept 26-28	Fall Retreat, It's A Colorful World
Dec 4	Holiday luncheon, Rocky's of Northville

2027 Calendar of Events

Apr 18	Spring Fling
May 15	Paint With Us
Dec 2	Holiday Luncheon

NOTE: There is a change to our Christmas Luncheon due to a fire at our first location. Our luncheon will now be **FRIDAY, DEC. 4, at ROCKY'S OF NORTHVILLE, 41122 7 Mile, Northville MI 48167**

After-Meeting Activity for the February, 2027 Member Meeting



Judy Ribitch will be teaching this pattern. Please see the registration form and note that the deadline to register is October 31 so that the surface can be ordered and then picked up at the Holiday Party giving members plenty of time to prep.

“It's a Colorful World”

Fall Retreat

September 25,26,27,2026



Hi Ladies,

Our Fall Retreat is just around the corner. By now you should have received your supply list for the classes you signed up for. If you have not, please let me know. Also please confirm that you have received it. Your committee has had a lot of fun planning and creating this weekend for you. Come and enjoy!



2026 Member Meetings

Livonia Senior Wellness Center

32001 5 Mile, Livonia MI

Saturdays, 10 am —2 pm

**February 7, April 4, June 6,
August 1, Oct 3, Dec 4 luncheon**

Board Meetings 2026

6:30 pm Thursday by ZOOM

Jan 8, March 5, May 7,

Sept 3, Nov 5



2027 Member Meetings

Livonia Senior Wellness Center

32001 5 Mile, Livonia MI

Saturdays, 10 am —2 pm

**February 6, April 3 & 24, June 5,
August 7, Oct 2, Dec 2 luncheon**

Board Meetings 2027

6:30 pm Thursday by ZOOM

Jan 7, March 4, May 6,

July 1 if needed, Sept 2, Nov 4





Doreen McLain will be teaching this Halloween pattern at the October Member meeting. The gourd is free to any member who renews their membership no later than the October meeting.



<https://www.vecteezy.com/free-png/birthday-greeting> Birthday Greeting PNGs by Vecteezy

Please bring a 3/4 or 1" flat and a mop, plus your basic brushes and supplies.

You'll also need to bring these Americana paint colors: Bright Orange, Dioxazine Purple, Hauser Lt Green, Lamp Black, Neutral Grey, Paynes Grey, Salem Blue, Taupe, Titanium White, Wedgewood Blue, and Yellow Green.

PAINTED PUMPKINS

The Picnic Committee is looking forward to seeing your finished painted pumpkins from the August Picnic. Bring them to our October Member Meeting and enter into a drawing for a \$50.00 Amazon gift card. No contest only a drawing.

The gift card was anonymously donated

September Birthdays

3 Pat Helwig

8 Doreen McLain

9 Nancy Thomson

12 Cindy Williams

16 Lisa Neely

20 JoAnn Smith

24 Connie Vasilnek

26 Lisa Drouillard

October Birthdays

20 Dawn Billiau

Pence raffle for the October Member Meeting 2026



Round wood box, Shelf, and pull sled



4 piece small closet

Reminder!

Please remember to take your pence - Margaret

Education – Diane Stiller - **VOTE ALERT!**

2027

Tracy Moreau and Chris Haughey had the highest votes. As it happens, Tracy doesn't travel teach anymore and Chris declined due to health issues. Cheri Rol came in next highest. but she just recently had emergency surgery. At the October Member meeting, I am going to have members vote on the following:

Maxine Thomas on-site for a Friday/Saturday. She doesn't work on Sunday's. I am working with the Senior Center to see if the room they are willing to rent us fits our needs. Our current room isn't available on Friday.

Tracy Moreau and/or Chris Haughey as a Zoom class.

And way out of the box!! Hire a Charter Bus to either OK Palooza or NET and use our education budget towards its cost. Instead of bringing artists to us, we'll go to them. This idea will only be considered if a Member is willing to make the arrangements for us. I looked into taking a train, but that is a 24 hour ride to Oklahoma City; not sure anyone would be up for that. If there is a Member who has experience with this or knows someone who could help, please contact me and we'll see what's possible.

I will schedule Barbara Reistenberg to teach Just Breathe using paints that she makes from coffee once we decide on the Big Brushes.

Vote for Board Positions for 2027

Board Positions	2027
Officers	
President	Diane Stiller
Vice President	TBA
Treasurer	Kathy Fischer/Joan Mueller
Secretary	Linda Christopher
Elected Positions	
Education	Diane Stiller
Library	Teresa Palmer
Membership	Pat Butler
Newsletter	Linda Morgan
Spring Fling	Diane Stiller through April
Website Administrator	Michelle Handley

Appointed Positions	
Audit	Cathy Uhring
Fall Retreat	Paula Atkinson
Holiday Party	Doreen McLain/Cindy Williams/Jan Kaplan/Karen Capshaw
Hospitality	Dawn Billiau
LSC Liaison	Diane Stiller
Memory Boxes	Cindy Mullins
Pence	Margaret Pedersen
Picnic	Connie Vasilnek
Sunshine	Connie Vasilnek
Treasure Boxes	Cindy Mullins
Non Board Positions	
Pence Raffles	Karen Capshaw/Cindy Williams
Seminar Hostess	Margaret Pedersen
LSC Liaison Email Contact	Denise Robert

Village of Decorative Painters Presents

Christmas Fantasy

Friday, December 4, 2026 12 –3 pm

Rocky's of Northville

41122 7 Mile, Northville, MI 48167

(1.3 miles west of I-275)



Please join us for our Christmas/holiday luncheon. You will have your choice of three served entrees, listed below. The meal includes a bread basket, salad with raspberry maple vinaigrette dressing, coffee ,tea, and soda, ending with carrot cake. A cash bar is available.

Entertainment includes a Christmas ornament exchange, and our Christmas raffle. This year we are including a charity to support; Fostering a Legacy which supports foster care kids ranging in age from 7 - 12. They are asking for toys and books for their 24 girls and 24 boys. We are also continuing to support The Salvation Army, Toys for Tots, and Little Free Library books. Kathy, Pat, and Cindy will collect your donations in the parking lot.

****Your reminder should you want to remember what you ordered:**

___ 1 Pecan Chicken ___ 2 Chicken Piccata ___ 3 Portobella Ravioli

The deadline for registration is November 18, 2026. Space is limited.

Name _____

Members: \$30

Guest _____

Non-members: \$35

Select one entrée per diner

_____ 1. Pecan chicken w/rice pilaf and fresh vegetable medley

_____ 2. Chicken Piccata w/rice pilaf and fresh vegetable medley

_____ 3. Portobella Ravioli

Make checks payable to Village of Decorative Painters and mail to:

Linda Christopher, 11795 Sycamore, Plymouth MI 48170





1:00 pm - Social Time and [Cash Bar](#)

View uniquely themed tables, baskets, silent and live auction items, 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.

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 to help with set up. We may need to set up everything the day of the event; although at this time we are scheduled to set up the night before. All deadlines need to be met so that we can set up in a very organized and timely manner so things run smoothly. Set up times TBA.

Baskets – Cindy Mullins cindymullins71@yahoo.com We would like to have 20 baskets. Contact Cindy now if you would like to donate a basket. 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 un-wrapped baskets will be due at the February Member Meeting, unless specific arrangements are made with Cindy. The Committee will inventory, wrap and give them a bow. Please email Cindy 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 Cindy if you are willing to donate a basket. It's never too early. The 2027 Charity Basket is TBA. The Basket theme is "Butterflies, Flying Colors on Painted Wings". 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	Michigan	Easter	Gardening
Wine/Cheese	Americana	Books	Scrap-Book	Mother's Day	Chocolate
Cards/Games	Chef	Frogs	Angels	Painters	Body & Bath
Theater	Sports	Children	Beach	Bird Houses	Nautical
Birds	Sewing	Butterflies	Light Houses	Golf	Fish

Silent Auction – Michelle Handley mlhandley56@gmail.com We will have about 12 items with a value of \$50 or more. Contact Michelle now if you would like to donate an item. Please bring the painted item no later than the February Member meeting or make other arrangements with Michelle.

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 or make other arrangements with Diane. 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.

Boutique Chair – Teresa Palmer teresahp@sbcglobal.net Our guests will be looking for items for teachers, holidays, such as Mother's Day, 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. The donations will be organized in boxes, tagged, priced, and stored at someone's house just like we did last time. We will let you know what day in March and where to deliver your donations closer to the day of the event.

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 will be on each table. Over-lay colored tablecloths look wonderful on the tables if you would like to bring your own. Napkins colors will be available at the February meeting.

1. *It will be a sit-down, served lunch. There will be a Cash Bar.*
2. As a hostess, the minimum requirement is that you must have a painted centerpiece and guest favors. The centerpiece will be raffled off at the end of the luncheon for the guests at your table. Please provide a favor for 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 one free admission no matter the number of tables that you host. If there is a co-host, then the pence and one free admission will be split among you.
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. Table can fit 11 people comfortably.
5. Each guest will receive one free ticket for the basket raffle. 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.



2027 DUE DATES

Boutique Items: TBA

Theme Baskets; and Kitchen or 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

ASKING FOR PAINTED RAFFLE PIECES

If you're donating a painted piece for the Christmas pence raffle, please keep in mind the Spring Fling is around the corner and we need painted pieces for the boutique.

Thank you, Cindy Mullins

Look what our members have been doing!

Oklahoma Palooza 2026: Celebrate!

Seven members attended this painting convention in Oklahoma City: Judy Ribitch, Sam Farah, Kim Eash, Mary Jane Wells, Kay Fradeneck, Eileen Carroll, and Jean Trimpe. What made this convention extra special was that they won **2nd Place** for their table at the banquet. Congratulations Ladies!



Scrapbook Memories

June 6, 2026 Member Meeting

Show & Tell



Eileen Carroll



Dawn Billiau



Judy Ribitch



Darlene Greenwood



Karen Lavella



Sandy Tyo



Sam Farah



Cindy Williams



Joan Mueller



Maureen VanBuhler



Denise Robert



Kathy Ziemba



Judy Ribitch

Memory Boxes



Treasure Boxes



Eileen Carroll



Pat Butler



Cindy Mullins



Linda Morgan

Pumpkin Patch Picnic chaired by Karen Capshaw Committee: Doreen McLain, Pat Helwig, Cathy Uhring, Cindy Williams



Village of Decorative Painters: Members Only
Saturday, February 6, 2027 - 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
After Meeting Activity at the Livonia Senior Wellness Center



Cost: Member \$20; No pence: this is for surface, embellishments, and pattern
You bring your own paints and usual painting supplies

Deadline: October 31, 2026 so we can order surfaces.

Pick up surfaces at Holiday Luncheon on December 3 (between 11 and noon if not attending luncheon)

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

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

Judy Ribitch: Sunflower – Saturday, February 6, 2027

Name _____	Class: \$20 _____
	Extra Surface \$12 x _____
	How Many _____
Phone # _____	Total Enclosed _____
	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

Membership Application for January 1 – December 31, 2027

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, 2026

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 _____