



Membership: If you would like to attend Retreat in April or the Sarah Shriver workshop in June, please make sure you have renewed your membership.

Education: Sarah Shriver will be here on June 17th and 18th to teach two “Trina’s Way” workshops on creating little acorn pendants and earrings using Skinner blends and kaleidoscoping cane techniques. Clay may be provided for classes. Registration form: [Sarah-Shriver-June-2016-Trina’s-Way-Registration.pdf](#)

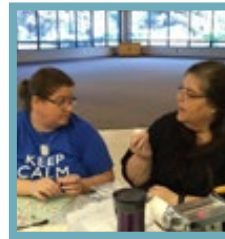
Library: Remember to bring any library materials you have borrowed to the meetings. Librarian Scott Raft is always interested in your ideas of what new books and dvds would be good additions for the MDPAG library.

Retreat: Mark your calendar! The 2016 Retreat will be held on April 7-10 at Colombiere Center in Clarkston, MI. Registration forms are available at our website: [mdpag-retreat-registration2016.pdf](#)

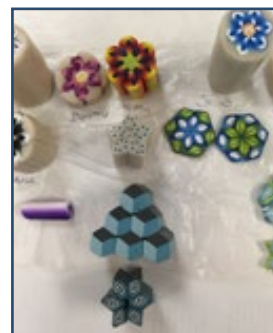
Website: Send jpgs of your work, Retreat, workshops, clay days, etc. to Webmaster Linda Vilas-Helton.



*Lynda Gilcher
Extruded Cane
Class Pics*



Members enjoyed learning how to create extruded canes from a master. Lynda has her own line of 30 disks to make creating flower and other canes even easier.



Photos by Kathy Weinberg

Denise’s Corner



Welcome Back!

Happy 2016! After the past 2 winters in Michigan, this winter has been a much welcomed relief. I hope the New Year will bring health, happiness and new positive experiences for everyone.

I want to have more mini clay days this year to share ideas while we’re creating for our Outreach projects. March, April and May meetings will be Mini Clay Days so bring your clay, work surface, pasta machine (without a motor) and supplies to the meetings if you would like to clay. March will be “Bottles of Hope.” April and May will be for “Hearts for Heroes” and “Beads of Courage.” Clay and face part canes will be provided for making “Beads of Courage.”

At the March 17th meeting we will be discussing upcoming elections. Anyone considering running for office can view the duties of the officers in the Bylaws on the “Members Only” Yahoo site or in last Spring’s newsletter. I’ll have a few hard copies on hand for those who are interested. A reminder that fairy doors are due for those who are in the swap.

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Fairy Doors Swap:

- Doors should be no larger than 2" x 2" .
- A total number of doors to be made is 16. Two doors are optional: one for an auction and one for a charitable project).
- Doors are due at the March 17, 2016 meeting. Late ones will not be accepted. If you can't attend the meeting, please let Denise Osborne know.
- Include your name or initials on the back of your fairy doors.
- Place each door in a separate bag labeled with your name (or including your name on a slip of paper) and put them in a larger Ziploc bag with your name on it. If you are mailing your doors, please include return postage with your box.

ALL MEETINGS:

Library: Librarian Scott Raft will be bringing the library materials to the meeting. Pay your 2015-2016 dues so you can check out items. If you have a suggestion for library items MDPAG to consider purchasing, let Librarian Scott Raft know. Thanks!

Member Ideas: We are always interested in your ideas for upcoming meeting demos, swaps, make & take projects and other topics. Share them at a meeting or send your ideas to Vice President Chris Corliss.

Show and Tell: Bring in work you have recently created to show fellow MDPAG members at the Show & Tell table.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, March 17th: Membership Meeting: 7 - 9 pm

Mini Clay Day: Bring your work surface, clay, pasta machine (no motors, please), tools, brayer or roller, stamps, etc. We will be decorating "Bottles of Hope" for Gilda's Club.

Education: Registration forms for the Sarah Shriver "Trina's Way" workshop will be available at the meeting. [Sarah-Shriver-June-2016-Trinas-Way-Registration.pdf](#)

Fairy Door Swap: If you signed up to participate in the swap, bring your doors to the meeting. If you can't attend the meeting, please let Denise Osborne know.

Library: All library items will be available for borrowing. If there are items you would like Librarian Scott Raft to consider purchasing for the MDPAG Library, let him know at the meeting.

Show & Tell: Members are encouraged to bring in any items they created over the winter break. We would like to see what you've worked on!

Thursday, April 7th - Sunday, April 10th: Retreat

Retreat will be held at Colombiere Center in Clarkston. It's a great opportunity to learn techniques from Guest Artist **Lynda Gilcher**. You can also work on clay; share techniques and ideas; see demos; participate in the Silent Auction (our main fundraiser for the guild); sell or buy items at the flea market; make something for the grab bag swap; participate in a collaboration project and have fun. You can sign up for one day or more. For a registration form, go to [mdpag-retreat-registration2016.pdf](#)

Thursday, April 21st: Membership Meeting: 7 - 9pm

Call for Nominations: We will be accepting nominations for the Executive Board positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. The responsibilities of each position are listed in the MDPAG Bylaws on the "Members Only" Yahoo Group and in the Spring 2015 newsletter. Denise will also bring some hard copies to the meeting.

Mini Clay Day: Bring your work surface, clay, pasta machine (no motors, please), tools, brayer or roller, stamps, etc. We will be making beads for "Beads of Courage" or hearts for "Hearts for Heroes." Clay and face part canes will be supplied for making "Beads of Courage" through a grant Kathy Weinberg received for creating them. Thank you, Kathy Weinberg and Denise Osborne for creating the face part canes for us to use in the beads for kids.

Show & Tell: Members are encouraged to bring in any items they created recently. If you have items you've created, won or purchased at Retreat, bring them in for members to see.

Fairy Door Swap: Doors will be returned to participating members.

Library: All library items will be available for borrowing. If there are items you would like Librarian Scott Raft to consider purchasing for the MDPAG Library, let him know through the at the meeting.

Meeting Pics

At the October meeting we learned about Gilda's Club programs and donated the decorated photo frames and other items to the Gilda's Club representative. We were inspired to sign up for the fairy door swap after watching Chris Corliss demo how to make them.

In November Jean Comport received a cat print with polymer clay tile frame for her years of service to MDPAG. We enjoyed perusing the garage sale tables, sharing a potluck meal and a participating in a gift exchange.



Photos by Kathy Weinberg

Denise's Corner (continued from Pg. 1)

Our annual Retreat is just around the corner. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone, especially our long distance members, and seeing what exciting techniques or Guest Artist, Lynda Gilcher, has dreamed up for us. Lynda's workshop in October was so much fun with plenty of nifty cane techniques. I hope to play more with the extruder discs she designed at Retreat. Lynda has hinted she was working on another series of extruder discs. Maybe we'll get a peek at them at Retreat. Right now I need to focus on what I want to accomplish at Retreat and pack accordingly. LOL, right, like that will happen! I have to keep telling myself, "Only pack what you need, Denise."

The Board is always looking for new ideas for meetings, swaps, articles for the newsletter, pictures and outreach projects. Please share them at the meeting, or on Yahoo or Facebook MDPAG sites. Our Web Master Linda Vilas-Helton has done a wonderful job creating a new user friendly website for us. Check it out at MDPAG.org. Thank you, Linda, for your time and talent. If you have a link or pictures for the website, please send them to Linda.

Happy Claying,
Denise Osborne, MDPAG President

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, March 17 • 7-9pm

- Fairy Door Swap Due
- Mini Clay Day: Covering Bottles of Hope
 - Library • Show & Tell

Thursday, April 7 - Sunday, April 10

Retreat, Colombiere Center, Clarkston
Guest Artist Lynda Gilcher

- Demos • Silent Auction • Gift Exchange
- Flea Market • Collaboration Projects
 - Lots of time to clay!

Thursday, April 21 • 7-9pm

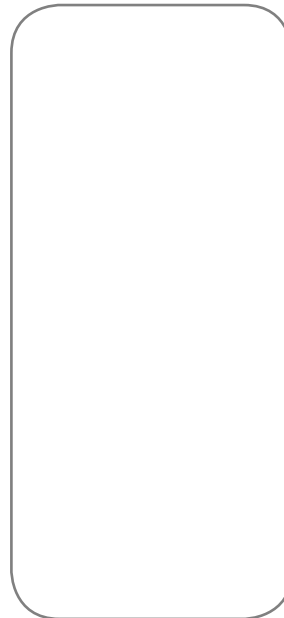
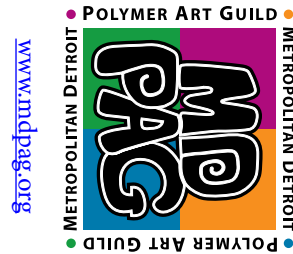
- Call for Nomintions
- Mini Clay Day: Making Beads of Courage and Hearts for Heroes
- Fairy doors returned to swap participants
 - Library • Show & Tell

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Meetings are held on the
third Thursday of the month,
excluding Dec., Jan. and Feb.

All meetings take place at 7-9pm
Royal Oak Senior Center, 3500 Marais



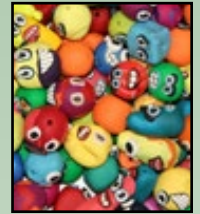
Dorothy Greynolds
5678 Eldridge Drive
Waterford MI 48327

OUTREACH PROJECTS:

Here are several ways to donate your creative talents to help others.

Beads of Courage:

Make fun beads to help boys and girls struggling with cancer or other serious illnesses. All styles are appreciated in any clay (except Sculpey 3 because it's brittle). Drill a hole in the bead large enough for a round toothpick to slide through.



Bottles of Hope:

Decorate small glass bottles (MDPAG provides) for Gilda's Club. Use a favorite technique or try a new one. The decorated bottles are given to Gilda's Club members (men, women, teens and children) who are dealing with cancer or other serious illnesses, as an encouragement.



Hearts for Heroes:

Make hearts about the size of a quarter for the armed forces. Attach them to a lanyard hook or fishing swivel hook. More masculine colors/styles are appreciated.



Bring the items you make to meetings, Retreat or Clay Days. Thank you for your participation.