



**Membership:** Denise will have membership renewal forms available at the guild meeting in May, June, and July.

July 1st starts the new membership year. Dues are \$30 for local and \$15 for long distance members (150+ miles from metro Detroit).

**Education:** Sarah Shriver will be here on June 17th and 18th to teach two “Trina’s Way” workshops on creating acorn pendants and earrings using Skinner blends and kaleidoscoping cane techniques. Fimo clay will be provided and will be passed out at the May meeting. Susan Kaplan will email people unable to pick up their clay at the May meeting a list of clay colors and quantities needed. Sarah Shriver will be at the June meeting to do a demo, presentation and will have work available for sale.

**Library:** Remember to bring any library materials you have borrowed to the meetings. Librarian Scott Raft has added magazines and Kor embossing tools as items that can be checked out. Thank you, Scott!

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



*Retreat Guest Artist  
Lynda Gilcher*



*Retreat 2016*



*Photos by Charmaine Lipa & Kathy Weinberg*

*Denise’s Corner*



**Thinking warm thoughts**

I’m so glad warm weather has finally come around. It’s time to bring the plants that I’ve nurtured all winter in my house outside to thrive in the sunshine.

With Summer comes a new membership year starting on July 1st. Membership renewal forms will be mailed out to those who are unable to attend the May and June meetings.

July will also be the end of an era for MDPAG. This will be the first year one of the guild’s most senior members is not running for office. After serving as a Board member for 23 years, **Jean Comport** is stepping down from office. Like Sue Kelsey, Sue Screws and Lynda Struble, Jean has dedicated herself to the running of MDPAG, one of the world’s oldest polymer clay guilds. I’d like to thank all four women for their years of hard work and dedication. I know I’m joined by the other Board members in saying that we hope we are able to carry on running the guild to the standards and expectations these women have set.

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## **"Trina's Way" CLASS**

### **FULFILLMENTS:**

If you are attending one of Sarah Shriver's workshops in June, remember to turn in your 10 "Beads of Courage" or "Hearts for Heroes" using any technique at the May or June meeting or at the workshop. After the class, use techniques taught by Sarah Shriver to cover 5 "Bottles of Hope." The bottles are due by the Sept. meeting. If you don't meet both of these requirements, your \$50 check will be cashed by MDPAG and put in the "Trina's Way" Fund.

Optional Silent Auction Donation: Make an item using the technique from class for the Auction. Money raised will be put into the "Trina's Way" Fund for future classes.

### **ALL MEETINGS:**

**Library:** Librarian Scott Raft will be bringing the library materials to the meeting. Pay your 2016-2017 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 members.

## *Upcoming Events:*

### Thursday, May 19th: Membership Meeting: 7 - 9 pm

**Election:** We will be voting for Executive Board positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you can't attend the meeting, please mail in your absentee ballot to Linda Vilas-Helton.

**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:** Susan Kaplan will distribute clay donated by Fimo to members signed up for the Sarah Shriver workshops. If you can't attend the meeting, she will email you a list of colors and quantities needed for the classes.

**Library:** Please turn in any library items you have borrowed. Items, including magazines and Kor embossing tools, will be available for borrowing.

### Thursday, June 16th: Membership Meeting: 7 - 9 pm

**Topic:** Sarah Shriver has offered to come to the June meeting to do a demo, give a presentation, and have her art work available for sale. She is bringing art pieces to sell in all price ranges. Members should bring cash or a check to purchase any of Sarah's work.

**Installation of Officers:** President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be installed for the 2016-2017 year.

**Potluck: The potluck will be moved to the July meeting so Sarah Shriver has time for a demo and presentation.** Sign up to bring a dish to the July meeting. Vegetarian and/or gluten free items are appreciated. If you can't attend the June meeting, you can sign up on the "Members Only" Yahoo Group.

### Friday and Saturday, June 17th & 18th: Sarah Shriver Workshops: 9 am - 5 pm

Workshops will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 5 Mile Rd, Livonia, MI. Sarah will be teaching "Little Acorn Pendant and Earrings" as a "Trina's Way" workshop.

### Thursday, July 21st: Membership Meeting: 7 - 9pm

**Potluck:** Bring in the dish you signed up for. Vegetarian and/or gluten free items are appreciated.

**Education:** Members who attended Sarah Shriver's workshops, please bring in your 5 "Bottles of Hope" bottles using the technique learned in the workshop. Also bring in work you created in the workshops for members to see.

**Trina's Treasure Box:** Bring in items to donate to our box and money to purchase goodies. This was done at Retreat and earned MDPAG funds to put towards the "Trina's Way" program.



## Retreat Pics



*Congratulations to Anne Nieman and Linda Yott, our 10 Year Pin Recipients!*



*Photos by Charmaine Lipa and Kathy Weinberg*



*Members enjoyed learning techniques from Guest Artist Lynda Gilcher and other members; found useful items in the "Trina's Treasure Box"; bid on items in the Silent Auction; exchanged items in the Trinket Swap and Gift Exchange; perused the Flea Market for items crafted by fellow members; making a collaborative cane; and clay-ing and relaxing with friends.*



*Retreat 2016 Retreat attendees. Not pictured: Carolyn Allen, Diane Ferguson and Jill Robinson.*

## Denise's Corner (Continued from Pg. 1)

The Board will soon hold our long range planning meeting to make plans for next year's meetings and events. Do you like the mini clay days? Any suggestions for demos, outreach programs, Retreat events, our next swap, etc. will be welcomed. Please bring your ideas to the May meeting or post them on the Yahoo or Facebook sites.

Speaking of swaps, would anyone like to try out being the Swap Meister? Once a theme has been determined, a demo, if necessary, will be given by a member and the sign up will be in October. The due date will be our March meeting. This allows our members plenty of time to make the swap items.

The Swap Meister is responsible for signing up members, answering questions, letting participants know if there are any changes, collecting everyone's swap items, sorting out and delivering them back to members. Sounds like a lot but it's not and the Board will be there to guide and help you. A nice bonus is you get to see all the items before anyone else. Think about it.

Hot dog! Now that this newsletter article is done, I can grab a glass of ice water, a book, and sit out on the porch and soak up some sun. I hope you have time to enjoy the beautiful warm days too.

**Denise Osborne, MDPAG President**

## Upcoming Events:

### Thursday, May 19 • 7-9pm

- Elections • Mini Clay Day
- Library • Show & Tell • Clay distributed to Sarah Shriver workshop attendees

### Thursday, June 16 • 7-9pm

- Sarah Shriver Demo & Presentation
- Class attendees turn in beads or hearts for Trina's Way Class Fulfillment
  - Installation of Officers
  - Potluck Sign Up • Library

### Friday, June 17 & Sat. June 18 • 9 - 5

Sarah Shriver Workshops. They will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Livonia.

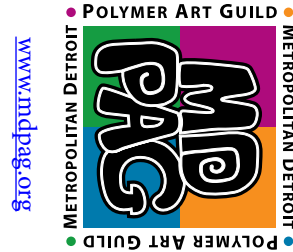
### Thursday, July 21 • 7-9pm

- Potluck • Trina's Treasure Box
- 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



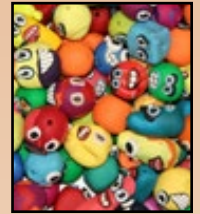
Dorothy Greynolds  
5678 Eldridge Drive  
Waterford MI 48327

## **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.