



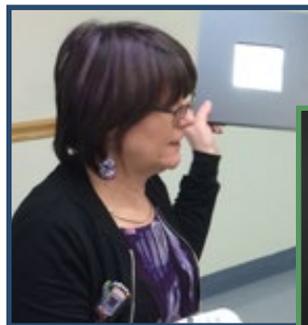
Membership: Our new year starts in July so it's time to renew your membership. Forms will be available at upcoming meetings and a pdf of the 2017-2018 MDPAG membership form is available at mdpag.org.

Education: The next workshops will be held on October 20th and 21st. Donna Greenberg will be here to teach mini vessels and Jell-O shot pendants and brooches. She will be also at the Oct. 19th meeting. Registration forms will be available at the July meeting and on mdpag.org.

Library: If you have overdue library items, be sure to turn them in at the May meeting. You won't be able to check out any more items until they are returned. If there are books or DVDs you would like Librarian Scott Raft to consider for the guild library, let him know at a meeting or on mdpag.org.

Website: Send jpgs of your work or ones you have taken at MDPAG workshops, meetings and Retreat to Webmaster Linda Vilas-Helton.

At the April meeting members enjoyed Kathy Weinberg's mosaic demo and Susan Kaplan's transfer demo.



April Meeting Pics



Photos by Dorothy Greynolds

Denise's Corner



Challenge Yourself

"I'm really not that good". That's what many of the callers say when they are inquiring about joining the guild. I reassure them that they will be fine. So you would think when an opportunity presented itself I would be gung-ho ready to jump in and have fun. Well, that wasn't the case when Emily Squires Levine, Laura Tabakman, and Julie Eakes announced a collaborative project they were starting last year called "Into the Forest". They asked artists to donate at least 10 items having to do with a forest for an exhibit they would be assembling in Pittsburgh, PA in November 2017.

I thought to myself I would like to be part of this project and thought of what I would donate. This was last year. Along the way I was distracted by life until I started seeing posts on Facebook of well known polymer clay artists' donations. I felt like I wasn't that good of an artist and forgot about the project and let the deadline for submission pass.

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Denise's Corner
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Then sometime in April I saw the deadline was extended to May 2nd and thought about joining in on the project. It wasn't until I saw the post from Laura listing all the states and countries where someone was participating. Michigan was not on the list. MDPAG is one of the longest, largest polymer clay guilds with 400 members both past and present.

I no longer felt not good enough but sad. Michigan was going to be represented as well as MDPAG so I got out my clay and started making blends which turned into a canes, that then turned into a variety beautiful plants, leaves, and stems. I amazed myself and it felt so good to be part of the collaboration. I have no idea why I did that to myself or felt I wasn't good enough or even why I compared my work to other artists' work. I do know if an opportunity like this presents itself again I will not hesitate to participate or feel like my work isn't good enough.

2017 Retreat with Deb Hart was awesome. Deb was amazing and shared so much information. Thank you Kathy Weinberg and Chris Corliss for another outstanding Retreat. I'd also like to thank everyone who helped with the set up and tear down, your help was appreciated.

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Upcoming Events:

Thursday, May 18th: Membership Meeting: 7 - 9 pm

Election: We will be holding elections for the Executive Board positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you can't attend the meeting, be sure to mail in your absentee ballot so your vote can be counted. If you are attending the meeting, do not send in your ballot.

Library: Please bring in any items you have borrowed. Several members have overdue library items.

Mini Clay Day: Bring in your clay, pasta machine (no motors, please), work surface, clay, canes, tools and ideas. Consider using your time to make some beads for "Beads of Courage", canes for Kathy Weaver to use for bracelets for children in hospitals, or cover bottles for "Bottles of Hope."

Membership: The 2017-2018 year starts in July. Turn in your membership dues if you haven't already done so. Forms will be available at the meeting. You can also download one from mdpag.org:

Swap: Swap items will be returned to members who participated. If you can't attend the meeting, please let Denise Osborne or Dorothy Greynolds know.

Saturday, May 20th: Clay Day: 10am - 5pm

Clay Day will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Road in Livonia. Bring your projects to work on (or plan on making some work for our outreach charities), work surface, pasta machine (without motor), tools, clay and chair pad (optional). You can bring lunch or plan on getting a meal at one of the nearby restaurants.

Thursday, June 15th: Membership Meeting: 7 - 9 pm

Installation of Officers: The Executive Board Members will be installed for the 2017-2018 year.

Demos: A variety of mold making techniques will be demoed.

Library: Please bring in any library items you have borrowed.

Membership: The 2017-2018 year starts in July. Turn in your membership dues if you haven't already done so. Forms will be available at the meeting. You can also download one from mdpag.org:

Thursday, July 20th: Membership Meeting: 7 - 9 pm

Education: Registration forms for the upcoming Donna Greenberg workshops will be available at the meeting. A pdf will also be on the guild's website mdpag.org.

Library: Please bring in any items you have borrowed.

Membership: The 2017-2018 year starts in July. Turn in your membership dues if you haven't already done so. Forms will be available at the meeting. You can also download one from mdpag.org:

Mini Clay Day: Bring in your clay, pasta machine (no motors, please), work surface, clay, canes, tools and ideas. We will be covering "Bottles of Hope."

Retreat 2017 Pics



We were very fortunate to have Deb Hart as Guest Artist at Retreat 2017. She gave several very thorough and inspiring caneing demos and made a pdf of the canes she demoed available for Retreat attendees to print.

Congratulations to Helen Pope and Becky Green for earning their 20 year MDPAG dangles and to Phyllis Crawley for earning her 10 year MDPAG pin.

The guild thanks Retreat Co-Chairs Kathy Weinberg and Chris Corliss and all the volunteers for their hard work in making Retreat a successful, enjoyable event.



Denise's Corner

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May's meeting will be our election. Chris Corliss will be stepping down from the Vice-President position as well as Retreat Co-Chairperson. Thank you Chris for all you've done for the guild.

Our May meeting will be a mini clay day. If you want more opportunities to clay, there will also be a full clay day on Saturday, May 20th.

Members who attended the March meeting were asked if they want to continue the June potluck, their answer was no. So instead there will be a demo on making molds from various materials.

June will also mark the end of the 2016-2017 MDPAG calendar year which means time to renew your membership for the upcoming 2017-2018 year.

Happy Claying,

Denise Osborne

MDPAG President

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, May 18th • 7-9pm: Meeting

Election • Swap items returned
Mini Clay Day • Library
Royal Oak Senior Center

Saturday, May 20th • 10 - 5: Clay Day

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Livonia

Thursday, June 15th • 7-9pm: Meeting

Installation of Officers
Mold making demos • Library
Royal Oak Senior Center

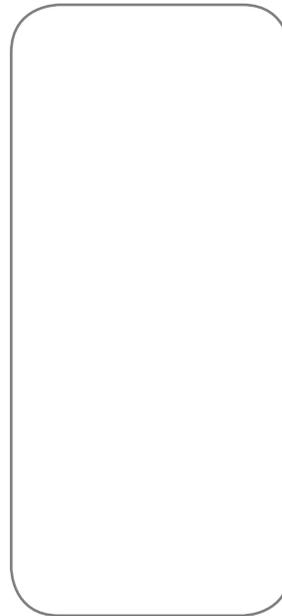
Thursday, July 20th • 7-9pm: Meeting

New membership year begins
Reg. forms for Donna Greenberg
• Mini Clay Day - covering “Bottles of Hope” • Library
Royal Oak Senior Center
more info. on page 2



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

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



Dorothy Greynolds
5678 Eldridge Drive
Waterford MI 48327

OUTREACH PROJECTS:

Use your creative talents to help people dealing with cancer and other serious illnesses. Bring them to meetings, Clay Days or Retreat. Your donations are appreciated!

Beads of Courage:

Make fun beads with any clay (except Sculpey 3) for kids. Drill a hole in the beads that a round toothpick can slide through.



Bottles of Hope:

Decorate small glass bottles (MDPAG provides) with cane slices, Skinner blends, textures, etc. for Gilda's Club. Bottles are given to their members (men, women, teens and children).



Bracelets & Badges of Hope:

MDPAG member Kathy Weaver sends bracelets, badges and zipper pulls to children's hospitals across the US. Any of these are greatly appreciated:



- Zipper pulls: sports, superheroes, Minecraft, etc. Use fishing swivel hooks or lanyard hooks on them.
- Badges: sports, superheroes, Minecraft, etc.



- Spacer beads: cured clay, metal, plastic or glass - 6mm or smaller
- Cured Canes: any colors, patterns or holiday themes (1/4" - 1/2" in diameter) Kathy will slice and drill the canes and use them and spacer beads in bracelets.