



Education: There are a few openings for **Melanie West's** workshops. There is an online registration on MDPAG.org. You can sign up for the Friday class or for both days, but not for Saturday only.

Library: If you have overdue library items, be sure to turn them in at the next meeting. Scott will be ordering Christi Friesen's new book coming out in August.

Membership: The 2018-2019 year started in July so it's time to renew your membership. Forms are available at the guild's website.

Outreach: A big box of bracelets, beads, and zipper pulls was sent to Kathy Weaver for "Bracelets and Badges of Hope." Thanks, Dorothy Greynolds, Denise Osborne Kathy Weinberg and the VBS kids at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for their donations.

Website: The website needs your pictures! If you have some good ones of your polymer clay artwork and from guild events, send jpgs to Linda Vilas Helton. Thanks!



Meeting Pics



Zipper pulls by Denise Osborne

Photos by Dorothy Greynolds

Denise's Corner



Back to Business

I hope everyone is having a wonderful and creative summer. So many tutorials, Youtube videos, and info on the web I have to limit myself so I can enjoy the beautiful weather.

To recap the MDPAG election results: Denise Osborne – President; Beverly Currie and Suzanne Stiles – Co-Vice Presidents; Kathy Weinberg – Treasurer; and Dorothy Greynolds – Secretary.

Thank you so much for voting. It means a lot to the guild when most of the ballots mailed out were returned with no write-in candidates and each name checked. Thank you.

Well, back to business. On July 7th the Board held the guild's Long Range Planning meeting where we make plans for the upcoming year, set the calendar, and discuss business. We focused on the By Laws and the need to revise and update them.

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"Trina's Way" Workshop



In June Marie Segal taught creating translucent canes with Cernit clay.



Helen Pope's bottles.



Photos by Dorothy Greynolds
and Charmaine Lipa

Upcoming Events:

All meetings/clay days are held on the third Saturday of the month at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Road in Livonia. The time is 10 am to 5 pm. The meeting portion will start at 10 am followed by time to clay. We may have sign ups for bringing food. Bring your clay projects to work on or plan on doing charity donations. (See Back Page). Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Meeting/Clay Day: Saturday, August 18: 10 am-5 pm

Demos: Denise will demo making a Halloween cane. Dorothy will demo making zipper pulls using molds she has made that you are free to use as well.

Meeting Topic: creating work for outreach program:

• Bracelets & Badges of Hope:

Make bracelets and canes in Halloween themes and colors for Bracelets & Badges of Hope". Canes can be simple to complex canes in Halloween themes and colors (orange, black, purple, white) Extruded solid color canes are also good. You can reduce them to 1/4" to 3/8" in diameter and cure them at the meeting. Slice them while they are warm. Give them to Dorothy Greynolds or drill them and use them in a bracelet.

Make zipper pulls (these are given mostly to boys) with a Halloween theme - eyeballs, ghosts, scary pumpkins, zombies, mummies, skulls, brains. These can be about 3/4" - 1.5" in diameter. Make them with a embedded telephone wire loop or swivel hook. Dorothy will have telephone wire, molds and bracelet making supplies available for members to use.

• Bottles of Hope:

Decorate Bottles of Hope with canes from Marie Segal's workshop (for your Trina's Way commitment - due by the September meeting) or with other canes or surface techniques for Gilda's Club. These are given to men, women, teens and kids so consider making some. Your work will be appreciated! Halloween themes would also be good for the Bottles.

Education: Bring in your 5 "Bottles of Hope" using the techniques learned in Marie Segal workshop to meet part of your requirement for taking the class. They are due at the September meeting.

Library: Please bring any items in you have borrowed.

Lunch: Bring your lunch or plan on getting something from a nearby restaurant.

Meeting/Clay Day: Saturday, Sept. 15: 10 am-5 pm

Demo: Kathy Weinberg will demonstrate covering paper bead forms (Donna Harriman's technique).

Education: All bottles are due for the Trina's Way Commitment! Bring in your 5 "Bottles of Hope" using the techniques learned in Marie Segal workshop to meet part of your requirement for taking the class. If you can't meet the requirement, your check for the class will be cashed by MDPAG.

Lunch: Bring your lunch or plan on getting something from a nearby restaurant.

Proposed Changes to Our By Laws

These will be voted on in November with a ballot that will be mailed to members a few weeks before the November 17th meeting.

To have your vote count:

- If you can't attend the meeting when the ballots will be counted, Fill in your ballot, seal it, and mail to Linda Vilas-Helton by the date posted in the ballot.
- If you can attend the meeting, bring your filled in and sealed ballot with you.

The current By Laws are in *Italic*. The proposed changes are in **Bold with the change underlined**. Please review and comment on the members' only Yahoo site or closed Facebook site. Only members in good standing (who owe no library items and have their dues paid) will be allowed to vote. The current By Laws can be found in the Files section of the members' only Yahoo site.

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Section C. Members in Bad Standing:

a. Not paying their annual membership dues by September 1, or the first membership meeting of each year, whichever comes first.

a. Not renewing their annual membership dues by September's membership meeting.

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ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS OF THE GUILD

Section F. The Executive Officers shall be elected at the May meeting each year to serve a term of one (1) year effective following their installation into office at the Annual Meeting, in June or until their successors are elected.

Section F. The Executive Officers shall be elected to serve a term of two (2) years during the May meeting effective following their installation into office at the June meeting, or until their successors are elected.

Denise's Corner
(Continued from Page 1)

What are By Laws? Webster dictionary defines By Laws as rules adopted by an organization chiefly for the government of its members and the regulation of its affairs. In a way it's our operating manual.

Where can you find the MDPAG By Laws? They can be found in the "files" section of the guild's Members' Only Yahoo group site. For those members who are not on Yahoo, you can request an email PDF of our current By Laws. Send me an email or a private message.

The proposed changes are on this page, Page 4 and Page 5. I've tried to keep it simple by just showing the areas for revision. A few of the changes we recommend are offering online voting and extending the term of the Board members from 1 year to 2. By allowing online voting for both election of Board members and By Law changes simplifies elections and is a save the guild money.

With the cost of postage and members increasing elections run approximately \$70, the same for a request for By Law revisions. Members will still be able to vote in person at the meeting and, if you prefer, an absentee ballot can be requested. We are just trying to cut costs where we can to keep operation expenses to a minimum.

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Proposed Changes to Our By Laws

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8. *The Past-President shall:*

b. Serve as the officer in charge of the election at the May general meeting and appoint two guild members to distribute, gather and count the ballots (both absentee and those cast at the meeting). These members will make the announcement of the election results.

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ARTICLE VII. DIRECTORS AND THEIR ELECTION/APPOINTMENT

Section B. Each year prior to the May meeting, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee.

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Section C. Election of officers for the next year will be conducted by absentee ballots received prior to the May meeting and by ballots presented in person at the May meeting each year.

Section C. Election of officers will be conducted every two years by either an online ballot, absentee ballot (mailed by request) received prior to the May meeting and by ballots presented in person at the May meeting each election year.

Section D. The Guild meeting held in June each year shall be known as the Annual Meeting and shall be for the purpose of hearing reports of out-going officers and committee coordinators, installing newly elected officers of the Guild, recognizing out-going officers, and for any other Guild business that may arise according to the agenda.

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Denise's Corner (Continued from Page 3)

The online ballot will be similar to the link sent recently for Melanie West's workshop in November, which by the way has a few openings left.

Linda Vilas-Helton, our current Past President, is in charge of the election. She handles all paper ballots and will receive the results of the online ballot to be announced after those who wish to vote at the meeting have done so. With so many members spread around the country it's time. Extending the terms of the Board members will also be a cost cutting measure.

Please review the proposed changes the Board recommends. If you have any comments or questions bring them up at our next meeting or post them on our Member's Only Yahoo site or MDPAG Facebook group. We would like to send out ballots in early November for the revisions to be voted on at the November 17th meeting.

Thank You,
Denise Osborne
MDPAG President

More meeting pics



Kathy Weinberg's
cane slices and
color palette



Photos by Dorothy Greynolds

Proposed Changes to Our By Laws

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ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. The first Board meeting of the membership year, known as the summer Board meeting;
 - b. The February meeting;
 - c. The June meeting; and
 - d. One additional mandatory meeting to be determined based on Board plans for the membership year.
- a. The first Board meeting of the membership year, known as the Long Range Planning Board meeting; June or July.
 - b. The September meeting;
 - c. The October meeting; and
 - d. The January meeting
 - e. One additional mandatory meeting to be determined based on Board plans for the membership year.

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ARTICLE XI. AMMENDMENTS AND VOTING

Section A. These bylaws and all subsequent revisions and amendments may be amended by a mail ballot sent to the general membership with a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) for return of the ballot. Only the returned ballots will be counted. A yes vote on two thirds of the returned ballots will constitute passage.

Section A. These bylaws and all subsequent revisions and amendments may be amended with an online ballot, ballots handed out at the membership meeting, or by requesting an absentee ballot mailed with a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) for return of the ballot. Only the returned ballots, those cast at the membership meeting, and the votes online will be counted. A two thirds yes vote on revisions and or amendments will constitute passage.



2018-2019

Meeting/Clay Days: Saturdays 10-5:

July 21	March 16
August 18	April 20
September 15	May 18
October 20	June 15
November 17	

Workshops:

Fri. Nov. 2 & Sat. Nov. 3:
Melanie West - Organic Canes

Guild meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month March - Nov. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Road in Livonia.



Cut this out and use as a bookmark!



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!

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 (3/8" - 1/2" in diameter) Kathy will slice and drill the canes and use them and spacer beads in bracelets.

