



## January Newsletter

Our next meeting is scheduled for

**February 2, 2025**

Doors open at 9:30 AM and painting begins at 10:00 AM.



**IMPORTANT  
NOTICE**



### **Important News– New Meeting Place**

At the December meeting, we learned that our regular meeting place, Tanglewood Center in Butler, unexpectedly is not going to be renting the space anymore, effectively leaving us with no place to meet for 2025.

After a bit of a scramble, Dot found a place for us to meet! Our meetings this year will be held at the

**American Legion Post 683**

**754 North Pike Road (Rt 356,) Cabot, PA 16023.**

Please make sure you mark that address down and put it in your GPS.

Our meeting dates for 2025 will be Feb. 2, March 30, June 1, August 3, Oct. 5, and Dec. 7.

## from the Desk of the President

**WOW !!** What a year we have had, and like life...we have had both good things and some challenges. But we, as a club and friends, will continue onward to make it the best we can.

I'll start with our latest challenge. Barb had our dates all approved for 2025 at Tanglewood, but at the December meeting we learned that we had to be out by the end of the year. They are no longer renting it out. Thank you, Dot, for finding us a great spot at the American Legion on Route 356.

Now moving on to some of all the good that I remember from this year.

Our membership in 2024 has been as high as 36 with 18 attending. I am hoping that more will be able to attend in the new year. We have 3 new members for next year!

If you haven't attended our Retreats, I feel sorry for you...they are top notch and so much fun!! Great subjects, teachers & friends to learn with. We can also participate in the Golden Triangle Retreat, so we have two times a year to get away.

We painted with acrylics, pastels, colored pencils, oils and watercolors. (that I know of). Our surfaces were wood, Roc-Ion, canvas bags, MDF board, Aprons, watercolor paper, canvas and suede board. A few of our subjects were sunflowers, fruit, ribbon tree, ghost boy, snowmen, signs, and a spider on a pumpkin. **WHEW what a good year!** Don't forget all the good food we eat and the prizes we win.

Remember if you bring two guests in 2025 you can earn a free class for 2026! So, mark your calendars now for our meetings. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

Your President for one more year,  
Linda Lineman 814-671-6502  
[lpmchina@gmail.com](mailto:lpmchina@gmail.com)

## Hospitality

Thank you to Deb's brother Jim and his wife for the delicious luncheon at our December meeting!

To help us keep warm this winter, our February meeting will feature soups made by Linda, Wendy and Vickie.

Members are to bring, as following:

A-H desserts (chance to get rid of those leftover Christmas cookies in the freezer)

I-O morning snacks

P-Z crackers, bread, salad, fruit, veggies, etc.



Vickie Kennedy, Hospitality Chair, 724-831-8624, [vickie.ann.kennedy@gmail.com](mailto:vickie.ann.kennedy@gmail.com)



# Membership

We had 18 members at the December meeting, plus guests Carrie, Charlotte, and Heidi. We hope to see them again soon. TCDP is implementing a new incentive for 2025. If you bring two new guests to a meeting, you'll get a free class in 2026! They can not have attended as a guest in 2024.

We are happy to welcome some new members for 2025. Rhonda Gillespie, Nicole Leffler, Ruthanna Leffler, Carrie Pizer, and Rosann Wagner. We are so happy to have them.

If you see someone you don't know, please introduce yourself and make them all feel like part of our family.

Don't forget to pay your dues for 2025. You can mail it to me or give it to me at the February 2 meeting.



Viki Sherman, Membership Chair,  
[vsherman@zoominternet.net](mailto:vsherman@zoominternet.net)

**L, E, T,   T, H, E,   G, A, M, E, S,**

**B, E, G, I, N, !**



Our 28th retreat will be Wednesday, April 30 through Sunday, May 4, 2025.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas, filled with fun, family and the sense of peace and new beginnings that only Christmas can bring.

The work of the retreat for many of us begins in earnest now. A huge thank you goes out to Dot Hoffman who has already put in countless hours as teacher chair and then putting together yet another beautiful booklet. She makes even that a piece of art!

If you are making part of the banquet centerpieces, please return your bag of goods at the February meeting so that we can properly accessorize them. If you won't be at the meeting, please send me a picture so that we can still do so. ([bleffler18@gmail.com](mailto:bleffler18@gmail.com))

I hope you are considering offering a make-it take-it for Saturday evening. You don't have to teach it, just be there to answer questions. They are such a great way to share your creativity without all the pressure of a formal class.

Have you made your contest entry for Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse? We can't wait to see what you come up with and the prizes are well worth your effort!

Wishing each of you blessings for the new year,

Barb Leffler and Carol Sexton, Co-Chairs

[bleffler18@gmail.com](mailto:bleffler18@gmail.com), [casexton@zoominternet.net](mailto:casexton@zoominternet.net)

# Points

Don't forget to get your points sheets to Marilou Grace on or before the February meeting. You can find them on our website at [www.townandcountrydecorativepainters.com](http://www.townandcountrydecorativepainters.com) .





## Service

I would like to remind everyone that we will be painting the toiletry bags for VOICe at our February Meeting. We will have paint and patterns. I also have a box of cardboard for in between the layers. Just bring your regular painting supplies. The bags won't be due until the June meeting. If you would like to paint one and can't attend the meeting, I will have them at the March 30 meeting and at retreat. Just let me know.

I will let everyone know the status of the new building at the February meeting.

Carol Sexton [casexton@zoominternet.net](mailto:casexton@zoominternet.net)

## Special Classes for February Meeting!

We have something special being planned for the February meeting! Do you have a friend or two who might like to learn decorative painting, but you don't feel like you can teach them from scratch? Are they afraid to jump into a project at a regular meeting? We are going to have some of our experienced painters available to introduce them to what we consider basics— needed supplies, different brushes and care, loading brushes, base coating, shading, highlighting, and whatever else we can think of. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact Barb Leffler or Linda Lineman. Members can be painting bags for VOICe, or they are welcome to join us to learn. This is just what we need to encourage new members! More information will be in a follow-up email.

## Ways and Means

What a great time we had at the last meeting. Although we only had the 50/50 and yearly raffle, we all had a great time. Thank you to everyone who participated in the *Sharing Our Holiday Traditions* gift exchange.

Our theme for the February 2 meeting will be winter, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and even spring. Please think of us when you are painting on these cold, blustery days and paint two of whatever you've got!

Wendy Cornman, Ways and Means Chair, [winburt61@yahoo.com](mailto:winburt61@yahoo.com)



## Yearly Raffle

We raffled off these beautiful sleds, painted by Donna Michael and Fran Deah, in December. The lucky winner was Barb Leffler. Continuing on her lucky streak, she also won the 50/50! Bryson picked her name for both.

None of us thought it was suspicious at all.





# Basket Luncheon

The Basket Luncheon will be on November 2, 2025. The theme will be "Autumn Blessings".

We are still looking for a venue since Tanglewood Center is no longer available. We plan to distribute the surfaces to paint for the centerpieces at the June meeting, but you can start to plan your wonderful basket donations now!

Karen Schnelle & Marie Uncapher, Co-chairmen

[karentheseamstress@gamil.com](mailto:karentheseamstress@gamil.com), [mayunc1@aol.com](mailto:mayunc1@aol.com)

## Program

Thank you to Mary Jane, Janine, Elaine, Carrie, Fran, and Linda for the great Make-It Take-Its at the December meeting. We loved them!

We are in need of teachers and projects for April, June, August, and October. If you have a project you'd like to teach, please contact me right away!

Deb Laney, [priariestar22@comcast.net](mailto:priariestar22@comcast.net)

Program Chair

## Nominations/Elections

The slate of officers read at the December meeting was , President-open; First VP/program co-chairs- Deb Laney and Carol Sexton; Second VP/Membership- open; Treasurer- Barb Leffler; Recording Secretary - Fran Deah; Corresponding Secretary- Donna Michael filling in for Kathy Schweikart; Newsletter-Dot Hoffman; and Ways and Means - Wendy Cornman.

There were no members that stepped up to fill in the positions of President and Second VP. Fortunately for our club members, the board members are willing to continue in there positions till someone steps up to help them. Could you be the one to help out? They have already served many years.



### February

Donna Michael  
Mary Ann Dunbar  
Mary Jane Griffith

February 7  
February 18  
February 28

### March

Sandra Cavalier March 1

Apologies to any new members with Feb/March birthdays that we missed, as that information was not available at time of publishing the newsletter.

Get well wishes go out to Fran Deah who recently had surgery and to Dave Michael, Donna's husband, who is recuperating from a bad fall. Keep Kathy Schweikart in your prayers, too, as she continues to recover.

Just a reminder that if you would like a card sent to one of our members, please call or email Linda Lineman.

Kathy Schweikart and Donna Michael, [dcm2@zoominternet.net](mailto:dcm2@zoominternet.net),  
Corresponding Secretaries



## News from Your Webmaster and Newsletter Editor



In some newsletters, we don't have much news to share with you. No so this time! If you have been on any of the Facebook groups, you may have caught the announcement that Viking Woodcrafts is transitioning its operations to Painting World Magazine. They are creating a company called "Painting World Magazine + Surfaces and Supplies." Many of us have ordered books- including eBooks, pattern packets, surfaces, paints, and brushes from Viking. Soon, their web site will send you to [www.paintingworldmag.com](http://www.paintingworldmag.com), where you can find those same wonderful products. Viking has been a staple in the Decorative Painting world for a long time, and it's great that we will continue to have access to everything with the coordination of Painting World Magazine!

Diane Kellogg is retiring from being the blogger and will be replaced with Debby Forshey-Choma, a wonderful designer. I'm sure Diane will have some creative designs to share with us, as Diane did.

If you don't subscribe to Painting World Magazine, I strongly recommend that you get yourself a subscription. It's one of the very few magazines dedicated to decorative painting, and it's certainly the most affordable. One of the new ideas they will implement is to have Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced sections of the magazine, so we can all grow in our understanding of our art.

They are looking for Brand Ambassadors who will help spread the word about the collaboration and products. They are also looking for new Surface Designers for those of us who like to design and inspire.

They are also going to bring back APC EXPO in 2026. Due to the changes, there will be no expo this year, but they are already planning the 2026 event. We'll try to keep you updated. If you have never been to an event where there are retailers in addition to classes, you don't want to miss this. Think of decorative painting heaven- everything you want or need in one spot.

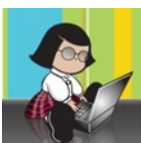
New England Traditions will be from October 7-12 and will feature over 100 classes plus a trade show.

*Hot off the presses is the announcement that Golden Triangle Decorative Painters will be hosting their fall retreat at Crestfield from October 23-26!! The theme will be "Into the Mystic," which should be fun.*

There are lots of ways to learn more about decorative painting. There are FREE classes on YouTube from many of our favorite teachers. I found a free class from Jillybean! Chris Haughey has many wonderful videos on surface prep, brushes, and painting techniques.

Thank you to clipart-library.com and creativefabrica.com for the free clip art this month!

Stephanie Perne



Webmaster

[stephanieperne@gmail.com](mailto:stephanieperne@gmail.com)

Dot Hoffman

Newsletter Editor

[tolebrush@aol.com](mailto:tolebrush@aol.com)



Check out our web site at [www.townandcountrydecorativepainters.com](http://www.townandcountrydecorativepainters.com)

## **TCDP BOARD MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024**

Held at: Tanglewood Senior Center Called to Order at: 11:16 a.m. Adjourned: 12:01 p.m.

Board Members attending: Fran Deah, Barb Leffler, Linda Lineman, Dot Hoffman, Wendy Cornman, Vickie Kennedy, Carol Sexton, Janine Stiffler, and Mary Jane Griffith

Quorum: General Membership Meeting 1/5 of total members: (7) = Quorum present

### **2024 ELECTED OFFICERS**

#### **Recording Secretary: Fran Deah**

The minutes of the October 13, 2024, meeting were published in the newsletter. There were no additions or corrections. The minutes were filed.

#### **Treasurer: Barb Leffler**

Barb gave the treasurer's report, which was filed for audit.

#### **President: Linda Lineman**

Linda would like every board member to take a moment and write down what the duties of their position entails. She would like to have the reports sent to her before the February meeting. Linda has a list of teachers who now travel teach, Willow Wolfe, Lydia Steeves, Debbie Cotton, Sandy Mctier, Mary Jo Tuttle, Bobby Campbell, Shania Rainer, and Mark Polomchak. She will give Stephanie a call.

#### **First Vice-President and Program Chair: Deb Laney**

MITI teachers today gave us 6 projects to choose from. Three in the first session and 3 in the second session. Some people said that they liked the old program way with half the projects in the morning and half following the meeting/luncheon. It was very early for us to get to Tanglewood. Barb gave us the bad news that when she went to pay today's rent, she was told that Tanglewood would no longer be available for our meetings and that we would have to remove our locker and belongings. Vickie Kennedy took our locker and our supplies/coffee/water urns. Wendy took our plastic table covers and Fran took the easels. If anyone knows of a hall or auditorium where we could meet, please let the board know.

#### **Second Vice – President and Membership Chair – Viki Sherman/absent**

Linda reported that we have 18 members here today. We also have a new member and teacher, Carrie Pizer. Welcome back Carrie! Rosann Wagner and Rhonda Gillespie have joined us also! Our guests today are Charlotte and Heidi Rice, they were invited by Vickie Kennedy and Bryson.

#### **Newsletter: Dot Hoffman**

All reports should be sent to Dot by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

#### **Ways and Means – Wendy Cornman**

February has President's Day, Valentine's Day, and winter weather for suggested donations. We have a lamp donated by Marcie Miller as the surface for our drawing for 2026. And today we will draw the winner for the 2 sleds.

#### **Corresponding Secretary – Donna Michael (filling in for Kathy Schweikart)**

Kathy says hello to everyone. She appreciates all the cards and well wishes.

#### **Hospitality – Vickie Kennedy**

Our meal today is catered by Jim Laney and smells delicious. February will feature soups providing we find a place to meet. Vickie, Wendy and Linda volunteered to provide soups.

Committee Reports:

**Hospitality – Vickie Kennedy**

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**Service Co-Chairs: Carol Sexton and Donna Michael**

VOICe is still not in the building, and Carol is having a hard time getting a response from them regarding their wishes for next year as to painted bags or painted zippered pouches. Dot donated clothes today that will need to be delivered.

**Nominations Chair (nonvoting) Janine Stiffler**

Janine read the proposed slate of officers. **President: Linda Lineman, Treasurer: Barb Leffler, Recording Secretary: Fran Deah, Seminar Chair: Stephanie Perne, First Vice-President and Program Chair: Deb Laney, Second Vice – President and Membership Chair: Viki Sherman, Newsletter: Dot Hoffman, Ways and Means: Wendy Cornman, Corresponding Secretary: Donna Michael (filling in for Kathy Schweikart)**

Linda asked for nominations from the floor. ***MOTION: A motion was made by Karen Schnelle to accept the slate of officers, Wendy Cornman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.*** The new/old officers will be installed at the February meeting.

**Retreat Chairs – Barb Leffler and Carol Sexton “Let the Games Begin....”**

A huge thank you to Dot for the beautiful retreat booklets given out today. Karen Schnelle let us know that she already has the name tags painted and ready to go, she just needs the list of names to put on them! And, once again she was the first to register!

**Basket Luncheon Co-Chairs: Mary Jane Griffith and Cindy Lamb**

Mary Jane said that all expenses have been turned in. Karen Schnelle asked why we got away from all hand painted items and now have hand crafted items. Next years Chairs will be Karen Schnelle and Marie Uncapher. The theme will be “Autumn Blessings”

**Unfinished Business:** Wendy would be willing to do Retreat 2026

**New Business:** We need a new place to meet! The Board will discuss the role of Junior members.

**Respectfully submitted: Fran Deah, Recording Secretary**