



# THE BRUSH WHACKER BEE

---

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

---

Saturday's paint in with Janet was a lot of fun. We got very close to being finished. Janet is a wonderful teacher and very patient with us. Despite the rain, we had a pretty good turn out. It was the perfect day to paint with friends.

By the time you get this the Christmas party will be over, so I hope you were able to come and join us at the Bali Hai. It is so beautiful there.

Our 50th birthday bash is coming in June. It is free to all of you who join or renew your membership by January 31st. Your responsibility is to register for the event by mailing the paint-in form to Cecelia Denton by March 1st.

Please think about submitting a painted project to the San Diego County Fair. I am giving you plenty of time to paint something or pick out something you have painted recently. Sheri and Andrea work very hard to get our club publicity and display our work. Watch your newsletter for information about how to submit. It's fun and lets people see what we do.

January's first class of the year is "Candied Santa and Friends" taught by Deb Ramo. She is a fun teacher and the piece is adorable. I am shrinking mine to put on ornaments. It would also look good on plates to give to friends and family with cookies on them.

I am always thankful for all of you! Have a blessed holiday.

Pam

## PROGRAMS

---

Hello everyone!

We want to thank Janet for a great day painting Prudy Vannier's "Hangin' the Welcome". Thank you to all who signed up and attended either in person or via Zoom. We had 29 sign ups from near and far. From Southern California to the Northwest as far as Canada and as Southeast as Florida and many places in between! It was great having so many new students join us as well as seeing some long-time members joining via Zoom. This was a great class to get in the spirit of Christmas and finish out 2025. Several of the students have posted their finished projects on the San Diego Brush Whackers Facebook page, we hope you will check out the posts and see what a great job these ladies did as well as the many different surfaces used.

We will be kicking off our 2026 Paint-In year in January with Deb Ramo keeping us in the Christmas mood with a cute design by Diane Marie Kellogg, Candied Santa Friends. It is designed to be painted on a scallop landscaping brick, however this design can be painted on anything, such as 3 separate Christmas Ornaments. See special notes on use of a Lazy Susan in below class description.

February we will all be "screaming for ice cream" as we have Sandy LeFlore teaching us her own design "I Scream". This is an adorable design that can be painted on the surface Sandy used, available from [www.cdwood.com](http://www.cdwood.com) or a surface of your choice. Sandy has made a special San Diego Brush Whacker page on her website in case students want to purchase a Vellum Tracing and/or the lettering Stencil that was used for this piece. The link to Sandy's website is: <https://www.justfinedesigns.com/index.html> click on packets and you will find the San Diego Brush Whackers seminar link. Thank you, Sandy, for making life easy for us!

The year at-a-glance for 2026 is posted on the website: <https://www.sdbushwhackers.com> and don't forget to check out the SDBW Facebook page for current news and club happenings.

Kind regards,

SDBW Program Chairpersons

Kathy Steffel, 619-328-3021, [kjsteffel@cox.net](mailto:kjsteffel@cox.net)

Roxanne Walker, 858-699-7843, [tole29@yahoo.com](mailto:tole29@yahoo.com)



## PROGRAMS

---



JANUARY 17

Project: Candied

Santa and Friends

Teacher: Deb Ramo

via Zoom

Designer: Diane Marie Kellogg

Class Fee: \$25.00 / Non-Member: \$30.00

Packet/Supplies Fee: \$0.00

Surface Fee: Scallop brick or surface of your choice.

This would be cute to paint on three separate ornaments.

Medium: Acrylics

Skill Level: Beginner

Note: If painting on a scallop brick, Deb suggests

bringing a Lazy Susan to place the brick on for ease

of moving the brick around as it can be quite heavy to turn

as you are painting the brick.



FEBRUARY 21

Project: "I Scream"

Teacher/ Designer: Sandy

LeFlore via Zoom

Class Fee: \$25.00 / Non-

Member: \$30.00

Packet/Supplies Fee: \$8.00

Surface Fee: Scalloped Dome

Plaque (available through

WWW.cdwood.com item #31-

L100) or surface of your choice

Medium: Acrylics

Skill Level: Intermediate

Note: Vellum tracing and stencil are available at

<https://www.justfinedesigns.com/index.html>

click on packets and you will find the San Diego Brush

Whackers seminar link



# **San Diego Brush Whackers**

## **2026 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM**

\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name First month/year

Street\_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip Code

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact & relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

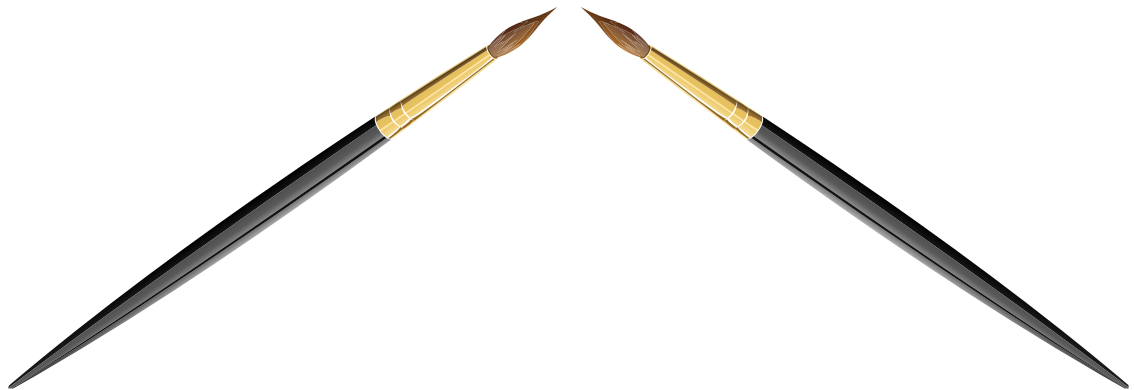
**All newsletters will be emailed to members.** We will print your name, address, phone #, e-mail and birthdate in our membership roster unless you circle information that you DO NOT want printed in the roster. Thank you for filling out our form clearly and completely. **Annual membership dues are \$15.00.**

**Make checks payable to: San Diego Brush Whackers**

Mail to our Membership Chairperson: Donna Kidd Eledge 144 Landis Ave Chula Vista CA 91910

Questions: jdbeldg@yahoo.com or 619-857-8096

x\_\_\_\_b\_\_\_\_n\_\_\_\_r\_\_\_\_



## MEMBERSHIP

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL. As of today we have 67 members for 2026.**

**This is a reminder that you must become a member by January 31, 2026 in order to be eligible for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Event.**



Please join me in welcoming our newest member:

**Caroline Johnson**

**5245 Sunnyside Drive Bonita CA 91902**

**619 254-0563 Bday 6/30**

**Our 2026 membership form is available now in the newsletter and on the website.**

You can always send your membership and/or renewals to: Donna Kidd Eledge 144 Landis Ave Chula Vista, CA 91910. Be certain to completely and clearly fill out the form (even if there are no changes) and attach your check for \$15.00. Please make your check payable to:

***SAN DIEGO BRUSH WHACKERS***

Be certain that we always have your current & updated information.

**Feel free to contact me for any changes to your information, questions or comments: 619-857-8096 or [jdbeldg@yahoo.com](mailto:jdbeldg@yahoo.com)**

**Thank you. Donna Kidd Eledge**

## FACEBOOK

Hi Painting Friends,

Do you know we have a Facebook page? Upcoming classes are listed to keep you informed. The more communication we have, hopefully the more you will get involved. The newsletter is great but you can't talk back. So let's hear back from you. Comment when you see a post. Ask questions. Share tips and helpful classes or other websites. I post as myself and also as Brushwhackers if I use the admin tab. I would love to see your projects as well. So let's get involved and share our art, club and friendships on Facebook.

Jenny Stabile. 619 917 7177. jensbusy@gmail.com

## CHILDREN'S CHARITY

Hi Girls,

Bag turn in has been slow. Yet there are 30 bags out. Let's get those painted. 120 bags were delivered to Monarch Schools in 2025. That's 30 less than 2024. Let's get those painted. We will be starting up the ZOOM painted bag night in January. We haven't confirmed a date yet, probably the 14th or 21st. An email will go out closer to the date. Contact me anytime for bags.

Jenny.

619 917 7177. Jensbusy@gmail.com

## WAYS AND MEANS

We had a great time despite the rain on Saturday. Sue won the guessing jar. In January, there will be some organizational items for raffle. We hope you can join us for the January paint in.

- Pam

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Stay informed by visiting our website at <https://www.sdbushwhackers.com/>. Each month, the latest newsletter is available along with all necessary forms for the year, including membership and Christmas party documents. All forms can be printed directly from the site easily. Additionally, class information and sign-up forms are provided alongside images of painting classes. This ensures ease in keeping up with events. We encourage you to explore all links to understand what we offer. Please visit soon.

Sincerely,

Carol Wolfe





**SAN DIEGO BRUSH WHACKERS PRESENTS THEIR...**

# 50<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY BASH

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FUN DAY OF PAINTING, CELEBRATION & FRIENDSHIP**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM PDT**

**at St. Madeleine Sophie's Center or ZOOM**

**2119 E. Madison Ave., El Cajon, CA 92019**

**This event is FREE for ALL members**

**You must be a member by January 31, 2026, to be eligible to participate**

**Registration deadline is March 1, 2026**



- Sandy LeFlore will teach this wonderful design that she designed especially for Brush Whackers.
- E-Pattern Packet & surface will be provided for all attendees.
- The surface is a RocLon roster cover.
- Surfaces will be mailed to members who live out of San Diego County.
- The class will be recorded.
- In-person seating is limited & lunch will be provided.

**We hope you will be able to join us**

**Please Renew or join by Jan. 31, 2026. Register by March 1, 2026**

MEMBER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

IN PERSON : \_\_\_\_\_ ZOOM: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or email registration to:

Cecelia Denton

548 Brauer Pt.

Alpine, CA 91901-1508

Questions?? Call/Text Cecelia 619-972-6052, Email: Ceceliapaints@aol.com

# Happy Birthday Brush Whackers



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

<b>3RD</b>	<b>DEBBIE CRANDALL</b>	<b>20TH</b>	<b>PAM LIEBERKNECHT</b>
<b>10TH</b>	<b>LOIS DENTON</b>	<b>24TH</b>	<b>NEDRA HATHERILL</b>
<b>11TH</b>	<b>MARIE VELOZ</b>	<b>24TH</b>	<b>DEBBIE WELTER</b>
<b>12TH</b>	<b>CAROL WOLFE</b>	<b>25TH</b>	<b>PENNY HOBBS</b>
<b>15TH</b>	<b>PAM RESSLER</b>	<b>31ST</b>	<b>HEIDI ALLISON</b>
<b>16TH</b>	<b>SUSAN MCCRACKEN</b>		



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

<b>9TH</b>	<b>CAROL WHITTON</b>
<b>10TH</b>	<b>MARILYN WINDER</b>
<b>12TH</b>	<b>DONNA ELEDGE</b>
<b>18TH</b>	<b>DEBBIE PATENAUDE</b>
<b>18TH</b>	<b>NANCY WILSON</b>
<b>20TH</b>	<b>ANDREA TOTH</b>
<b>21ST</b>	<b>EVIE VACCARO</b>







## San Diego Brush Whacker Paint In's Paint In Information and Policies

- ★ **WHEN:** 3rd Saturday of the month (except Sept. & Dec.) 9am to 3pm
- ★ **WHERE:** St. Madeleine Sophie Center 2119 E. Madison Ave. El Cajon, CA 92019-1111
  - I-8 east, exit Greenfield Dr - turn right, turn left E. Madison, center is on your right
- ★ **FOOD:** Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided.
- ★ **WHO:** Any member in good standing
  - Guests/Non-Members - Welcome to attend paint-ins for an additional \$5.00 per class
- ★ **COST:**
  - Member Class Fee is \$25/Non-Member Fee is \$30 - covers room rent & teacher fee
  - Project Fee - decided by teacher
  - Surface Fee - varies (if applicable)
  - Checks will be cashed AFTER the paint-in, when paying for multiple classes please provide a separate check for each class.
  - **NO REFUNDS** are given for paint-ins
  - **SURFACES** You may provide your own surface
  - Prep instructions and surface, if applicable, will be available at the paint-in previous to the scheduled class
  - *It is the member's responsibility to pick up prep instructions/surface*
  - *Unless specified, Zoom is available for every class*

<b>Paint In Enrollment</b>		
(Please initial) _____ I understand it is my responsibility to pick up prep instructions & surface, if available. I understand no refunds are given for paint-ins.                      ZOOM ?   Yes   No		
Project Name:	Member Fee and/or Non-Member Fee:	
Name:	Packet/Supplies Fee:	
Phone:	Surface Fee:	
Email:	Total Enclosed	
Make checks payable to " <b>San Diego Brush Whackers</b> " and mail to: Kathy Steffel, 10714 Sayers Ct, Santee CA 92071		

**Questions/Concerns: Contact Kathy Steffel at [kjsteffel@cox.net](mailto:kjsteffel@cox.net) or Roxanne Walker at [tole29@yahoo.com](mailto:tole29@yahoo.com)**

## NOMINATION COMMITTEE

### 2026 San Diego Brush Whacker Board

President - Pam Lieberknecht

1st VP Programs - Andrea Toth and Nancy Wilson

2nd VP Membership - Donna Eledge

Secretary - Cecelia Denton

Treasurer - Kathy Steffel

Newsletter Editor/Publisher - Maddie Sanchez

Web Editor - Carol Wolfe

Ways & Means - Pam Lieberknecht

Historian/Seminar - Sally Anson

Hospitality - Charlotte Hicks

Panty Raffle for Rachel's Center - Joyce Hatch

Children's Charity/Facebook - Jenny Stabile

Autumn Get Away - Sally Anson and SDBW Members

SD Fair - Sheri Barker/Andrea Toth

Holiday Party - TBD

SMSC Liaison - Cecelia Denton

A/V - Kathy Steffel, Carol Phillips & Pam Lieberknecht

Thank you to all who have stepped up...again...we need all of you, our SDBW members to help and participate in the running of the club. All the positions listed above can always use YOUR help. Try it...you'll like it!

- Sally Anson

### HOSPITALITY

Painting Friends,

Do you know of a fellow Brush Whacker who would enjoy receiving an encouraging note or a "Thinking of You" card? I'd love to send her one. Please e-mail her name to me at [charlotte.a.hicks23@gmail.com](mailto:charlotte.a.hicks23@gmail.com).

Thank you,

Charlotte



## PICTURES FROM THE NOVEMBER PAINT IN WITH JANET MITCHELL



**JAN JOHNSON ADAPTED  
THE DESIGN A BIT.**





## PICTURES FROM THE NOVEMBER PAINT IN WITH JANET MITCHELL

---



**KATHY & SUE WERE THE  
BIG RAFFLE WINNERS.**



**HAPPY RAFFLE WINNERS!**



**BARBARA TRENT WON  
THE PANTY RAFFLE.**



## SUPPORTING WOMEN IN NEED: THE RACHEL CENTER

---

Hi everyone,

Merry Christmas or Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year! Another year gone! Where does the time go?

No panty Raffle in December, just parties, huge meals, baking cookies and eating lots of desserts.

It's that time of year I'm looking and hopeful, I'll be able to fill with very generous women to help support the Rachel Center. Each month someone provides a gift to be won by donations of new underwear. I need a few good people to take a Month!!

Thank you for all you do!

Joyce Hatch



### **The 2026 San Diego County Fair Competition Is COMING!**

Plan ahead! What would you like to enter as a competitive piece in the HomeMade category for 2026? I have included some of the marketing from the Fair below to inspire you. REMEMBER, you don't need to submit under the Fair theme—there will be multiple categories for decorative painting items, along with quilting, sewing, baking, etc., etc.

The 2026 theme will invite our Fair fanatics to start a new chapter that is all about the narratives that shaped us, the simple pleasures of good books, the power of storytelling, and all the magic found between the lines.

This theme is a great chance to highlight the stories we love, but it's also a perfect fit for who we are and what we do every year. After all, the San Diego County Fair is the greatest story our community has ever told — a tale of food, fun, friends, family, laughter, tradition, music, amazement, and pure, unbridled joy.


If you have questions about Fair entries, please contact Sheri Barker, [dr.sheridan.barker@gmail.com](mailto:dr.sheridan.barker@gmail.com) or Andrea Toth, [andra120@aol.com](mailto:andra120@aol.com)




## But There is Much More to this Story.

Throughout the Fairgrounds you'll choose your own adventure:




 **Hunger Games:** Feast on fair-favorite foods — from classic corn dogs and candied apples to wildly imaginative (and deep-fried!) culinary creations.




 **Goosebumps:** Brave more than 70 thrilling rides in the Fun Zone and Kids Zone —twists, turns, and stomach-flipping surprises await!




 **Lord of the Rings:** Test your skills at our carnival games for a chance to win your own precious prize.



 **Where the Wild Things Are:** Meet barnyard buddies in the Petting Farm, learn about livestock animals raised for food and fiber, and catch edu-tainment shows starring furry, fluffy, and feathered (and often funny!) friends.




 **Treasure Island:** Explore a treasure trove of handcrafted goods, unique finds, and curious trinkets in our bustling shopping halls—your perfect souvenir might just be the next great plot twist in your day!


You won't want to miss your chance to live out your "happily ever after" at the 2026 San Diego County Fair.

Our featured theme exhibit invites fairgoers of all ages to explore the world of books through playful photo ops, educational exhibits, and hands-on fun.




 **Tell Your Story:** Discover your inner author! Join workshops on writing, illustrating, and publishing your own fictional or biographical tale.




 **Golden Books:** Step into the treasured stories of your youth—from classic fairy tales to young adult adventures—and rediscover the magic that made you fall in love with reading.




 **Color & Comics:** Explore the bold, vibrant world of comics, graphic novels, and giant coloring books—because not all great stories are told in words.



 **Library Love:** Learn how libraries have shaped communities, past and present, and how you can unlock their hidden treasures.



 **Book Fair:** Browse our Book Fair for your next summer read. Mystery, Sci-Fi, Romance or Travel? There's something for every bookworm to devour!

# SAN DIEGO BRUSH WHACKERS, INC.

**Board Meeting Minutes** for, October 11 , 2025, Via Zoom

**Call To Order:** The Meeting was called to order by President Pam Lieberknecht at 9:01 am

**Present:** Pam Lieberknecht, Carol Wolfe, Donna Eledge, Cecelia Denton, Sue Ludlam, Joyce Hatch, Carol Phillips, Roxanne Walker, ~~Maddie Sanchez~~, Kathy Steffel, Sheri Barker, ~~Andrea Toth~~, Jenny Stabile, ~~Sally Anson~~, ~~Charlotte Hicks~~, ~~Heidi Allison~~, ~~Debbie Patenaude~~, ~~Jolene Cooley~~.

**Absent:** Maddie Sanchez, Andrea Toth, Sally Anson, Charlotte Hicks, Heidi Allison, Debbie Patenaude, Jolene Cooley.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes from August 9, 2025, as presented by, Jenny Stabile seconded by, Carol Phillips and passed.

Motion to approve minutes from September 16, 2025, as presented by, Jenny Stabile seconded by, Donna Eledge and passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sue Ludlam reported a balance of \$ 33250.24 as of October 11, 2025 motion to approve Treasurer's report as presented by, Donna Eledge seconded by, Carol Phillips and passed.

## Communications:

**New Business:** Budget for 2026 was discussed and adjusted where needed, it will be voted on at the November meeting.

**Old Business:** A discussion was held to determine if we would continue at St. Maddie's for one more year at \$300 a month, a couple of other options were discussed and set aside for further investigation for 2027. Donna Eledge made a motion to stay at St. Maddie's Sheri Barker seconded it and it passed.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party will be in person and on Zoom, it will be held on the third Saturday in June. The committee is working out the details.

## Reports:

**Programs:** Kathy Steffel / Roxanne Walker, Teachers will be able to submit 3 projects and teach 2 if selected. We have 14 signed up for October and 11 so far for November.

**Membership:** Donna Eledge, we have 52 renewed and 4 new members.

**Newsletter:** Maddie Sanchez, Due by the 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Web Editor:** Carol Wolfe, Information about the fair will be included on the web page. We had 144 visitors to the site in September.

**Facebook:** Jenny Stabile, October class is on Facebook page, and I will upload November class.

**Historian:** Sally Anson, no report

**Audio Visual:** Carol Phillips, Kathy Steffel and Pam Lieberknecht, Carol will set up and Pam and Kathy will close out.

**Charities/Panty Raffle:** Joyce Hatch, not sure what the prize is for this month, but we will have something nice.

**Children's Charities:** Jenny Stabile, I took 49 bags to Monarch School. We are going to set up a day for a tour of the facility.

**Seminars:** NA

**San Diego County Fair:** Sheri Barker/Andrea Toth, Theme for 2026 is Happily ever after.

**Autumn Getaway:** Heidi Allison, completed.

**Holiday Party:** Debbie Patenaude, 34 signed up so far.

**SMSC Liaison:** Cecelia Denton, no report

**Closing Statements:**

**Next Board Meeting:** November 8, 2025, at 9:00 am,

**Motion to adjourn made by:** Kathy Steffel, seconded by Roxanne Walker.

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 10:49

**Respectfully submitted by:** Cecelia Denton





## SAN DIEGO BRUSH WHACKER 2025 BOARD

PRESIDENT	Pam Lieberknecht	quilterpml@gmail.com
1st VP PROGRAMS	Kathy Steffel	kjsteffel@cox.net
	Roxanne Walker	tole29@yahoo.com
2nd VP MEMBERSHIP	Donna Eledge	jdbeldg@yahoo.com
SECRETARY	Cecelia Denton	ceceliapaints@aol.com
TREASURER	Sue Ludlam	7decorartist@gmail.com
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Maddie Sanchez	madelynn.r.sanchez@gmail.com
WEB EDITOR	Carol Wolfe	wolfepaints@gmail.com
FACEBOOK EDITOR	Jenny Stabile	jensbusy@gmail.com
SEMINARS	Sally Anson	bsvranson@cox.net
WAYS & MEANS	Pam Lieberknecht	quilterpml@gmail.com
HISTORIAN	Sally Anson	bsvranson@cox.net
HOSPITALITY	Charlotte Hicks	charlotte.a.hicks23@gmail.com
PANTY RAFFLE	Joyce Hatch	joycepaints@gmail.com
CHILDREN'S CHARITY	Jenny Stabile	jensbusy@gmail.com
AUTUMN GET-AWAY	Heidi Allison	periwoods@aol.com
	Jolene Cooley	joleneaudit@gmail.com
HOLIDAY PARTY	Debbie Patenaude	paintbug21@gmail.com
	Carol Phillips	cmphillipsrdh@att.net
SD FAIR	Sheri Barker	dr.sheridan.barker@gmail.com
	Andrea Toth	andra120@aol.com
SMSC LIAISON	Cecelia Denton	ceceliapaints@aol.com
AUDIO VISUAL	Carol Phillips	cmphillipsrdh@att.net
	Pam Lieberknecht	quilterpml@gmail.com
	Kathy Steffel	kjsteffel@cox.net