



THE BRUSH WHACKER BEE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you Debbie for the amazing Gingerbread Christmas! It was so much fun and such a beautiful venue. The tables were decorated with gingerbread characters and the room was full of JOY. I am hoping someone will step up to organize this event for December 2026.

At this time we have not gotten a confirmation on our Autumn Get Away dates for 2026. We are hoping to confirm our dates in September soon. We may have to adjust those dates. We will let you know when we have the contract for this event.

Remember to renew your membership by January 31st if you want to participate in our 50th birthday celebration. If you have renewed you need to send (by snail mail) a registration form to Cecelia by March 1st. The form is in this newsletter. Don't be left out! The birthday project is a roster cover that we will paint with Sandy LeFlore. This is a free event for members only.

Our first paint-in of 2026 is by Deb Ramo via zoom. It would look adorable on a tray, plate or individual ornaments. An ornament box with these three characters on it would be a wonderful keepsake for someone in your family. It can be resized to any surface.

Classes are available in person or on zoom. Please look over this year's classes and think about joining us for some of them. We have awesome teachers.

Jenny will be restarting our zoom bag painting night. The first one will be Jan. 21st at 7 pm. You can get bags from Jenny and lots of shared ideas as we zoom. The bags are for the Monarch school children. This is a great way to start the New Year.

Happy New Year to all of you!!

Pam

PROGRAMS

Hello everyone!

We don't know about you, but where did 2025 go???? We hope that you and yours had a splendid holiday season spent with family and friends, and that it was filled with love and laughter. We want to give a huge shout out to Debbie Pattenaude and her team of elves for a "sweet" Christmas party. It was great to see so many friends that we may only see once or a few times a year in person as well as to welcome the many new friends that joined us this year. Thank you, Debbie and your committee, it was a lovely party!

With 2025 behind us, Roxanne and I will be passing the torch of the Programs positions to Nancy Wilson and Andrea Toth who have graciously stepped up to work Programs for SDBW. Please give us all grace as we transition. **For the January class please send your sign-ups and money to Kathy Steffel.** Beginning with the February class, please send your sign-up to Nancy Wilson using the updated form in this newsletter and on the website.

Thank you to all the members that supported us the past two years by taking classes and voting on the projects for each year. It is wonderful that our club leaves the voting to the members and offers reasonable priced classes to its members in person as well as via Zoom!

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 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,

2025 SDBW Program Chairpersons

Kathy Steffel, 619-328-3021, kjsteffel@cox.net

Roxanne Walker, 858-699-7843, tole29@yahoo.com

2026 SDBW Program Chairpersons

Nancy Wilson, 619 619-517-6930, nwilson35@cox.net

Andrea Toth, 619-920-2897, andra120@aol.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#: _____

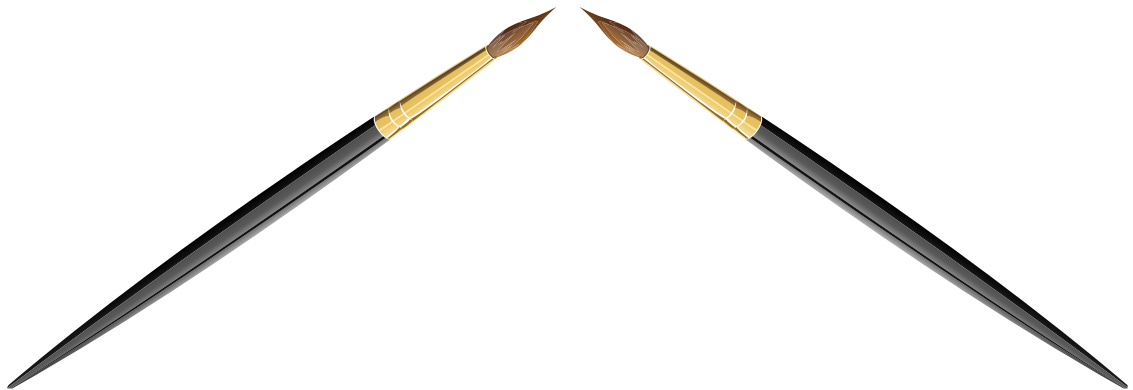
All newsletters will be emailed to members. We will print your name, address, phone #, e-mail and birthdate in our membership roster unless you circle information that you DO NOT want printed in the roster. Thank you for filling out our form clearly and completely. **Annual membership dues are \$15.00.**

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

WELCOME TO SAN DIEGO BRUSHWHACKERS 2026. Our membership numbers have reached 87. We have four new members we are welcoming here:

1. LAURA CLEGG 801-336-91521
636 E. Main Street American Fork UT 84003
Laura.cocalite@gmail.com Bday: 03/04
2. WENDY HAAGLUND 775-304-3308
9580 S. Buffalo Road Winnemucca NV 89445
whaaglund@gmail.com Bday: 07/14
3. LINDA KILPONEN 973-223-3288
16 Berry Lane Randolph NJ 07869
Linda.Kilponen@gmail.com Bday: 05/13
4. DEBORAH FERRELL 252-671-9622
323 Sterling Road Jacksonville NC 28546
Dferrell1218@aol.com Bday: 12/18



Our 2026 membership form is available now in the newsletter and on the website. This is a reminder that you must become a member by January 31, 2026 in order to be eligible for our 50th Anniversary Special Event. If your name is listed here we have yet to receive your renewal for 2026: Allison, Baros, Beers, Bosch, Butler, Crandall, Dawson, DuffEy, Elliott, Gettenmeyer, Greeman, Hellesen, Jacobs, Jensen, Mannon, McCracken S., Montgomery, Pierce, Pilcher, Randall, Reiner, Roberts, Rydout, Sanchez, Sharp, Shimansky, Smith G., Tatum, Trent, Trammell, Wasserbauer, Welter D., & Whitton.

Please 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

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

Wishing you all a wonderful 2026. I am hoping to see more of you painting bags for our charity project Monarch Schools. Please reach out to me if you need bags. I am usually at paint-ins as well. We are starting our ZOOM bag painting night again on Wednesday, January 21st 7pm. Be in the look out for a Zoom invite .

Hope to see you soon

Jenny.

619 917 7177. Jensbusy@gmail.com

WAYS AND MEANS

We will be having our paint-in raffle in January. If you are in person, there will be some "free stuff". I will also have some organizational items as well as a few wood pieces and painted pieces. I hope to see you in January.

- Pam

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Stay informed by visiting our website at <https://www.sdbrushwhackers.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...

50TH 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





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**

| Paint In Enrollment | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| (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 "San Diego Brush Whackers" and mail to: Nancy Wilson, 1525 Fargo Ave, El Cajon CA 92019 | | |

Questions/Concerns: Contact Nancy Wilson at nwilson35@hotmail.com and Andrea Toth at andra120@aol.com

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

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. We are still in need of Christmas Party chairperson.

- 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.

Thank you,

Charlotte



PANTY RAFFLE SUPPORTS WOMEN IN NEED

Hi everyone,

Our next Panty Raffle is just around the corner, and we're excited to share the amazing news! This month's raffle features panties donated, painted, and designed by Donna Carpenter, owner of

Art Creations Plus
1085 Broadway, El Cajon, CA 92021

All proceeds support the Rachel's Center, a safe haven providing essential services to women in need. For every pair of new underwear donated, you'll receive a ticket to win these beautiful panties.

Drop off your donations at our monthly Paint In's event. Let's come together to support our community!

Thank you for your generosity!

- Joyce Hatch

Memorial Service for Merle Avery



Merle Avery

1937 - 2025

As you may know, we lost our dear painting friend, teacher, and long time club member at the end of October. Her family will be holding her memorial service in early January, with info as follows if you would like to attend:

Date: January 10th

Time: 1:30 p.m

Place: First United Methodist Church

341 Kalmia Street

Escondido, CA 92025

AUTUMN GET AWAY

Hi All,

I'm your AGA Chairgal for the 2026 event! Be looking for me on our SDBW Facebook page doing lives with what is going on in 2026. Don't want to miss it. If you don't have Facebook, let me know and I'll be sure to email you information. All new dissemination of helpers for 2026 AGA.....oh and a theme will be announced shortly. It's gonna be fun, quirky, and a bit crazy...just like your AGA Chairgal!

See you all soon,

Sally Anson



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 or Andrea Toth, 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 WHACKER 2025 BOARD

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| PRESIDENT | Pam Lieberknecht | quilterpml@gmail.com |
| 1st VP PROGRAMS | Andrea Toth | andra120@aol.com |
| | Nancy Wilson | nwilson35@cox.net |
| 2nd VP MEMBERSHIP | Donna Eledge | jdbeldg@yahoo.com |
| SECRETARY | Cecelia Denton | ceceliapaints@aol.com |
| TREASURER | Kathy Steffel | kjsteffel@cox.net |
| 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 | Sally Anson | bsvranson@cox.net |
| HOLIDAY PARTY | -no holiday chair yet- | - |
| 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 |