



The Tole Tattler

<http://octdp.com>

Volume 43 Issue 08

August 2025

Summer Greetings



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Our meetings are held at:
Anaheim United Methodist Church
 1000 S. State College Blvd
 Anaheim, CA 92806

Doors open at 9 am
 Paint-In/meeting starts
 at 9:30 am

President's Message

Hello, OCTDP Family! 🌸 ✨

OCTDP Updates

We are pleased to announce that, beginning January 2026, OCTDP's Paint-in meetings will be held at **First Presbyterian Church, located at 11832 Euclid Street, Garden Grove, CA 92480**. This spacious, well-lit facility features a kitchenette and offers ample room to accommodate our regular gatherings. Larger occasions, such as the Mystery Paint-In and Christmas party, will take place in their fellowship hall, which can comfortably host more attendees for these activities. Ample parking is available nearby, and the venue is fully accessible with no stairs, ensuring convenience for all members. Further details regarding this transition will be communicated as the date approaches.

July Christmas Village Recap

🎄 What a magical time we shared crafting our Christmas in July village! The room buzzed with joy and holiday spirit as we brought this enchanting scene to life. Under Rose's inspiring guidance, every brushstroke became a memory—each detail adding to a keepsake that will sprinkle festive cheer in your home for years to come. ✨ It was a day filled with laughter, creativity, and togetherness. The more heart you poured into your masterpiece, the more special it became—truly the kind of treasure to be passed down through generations. ☀️

August Jack-O-Lanterns Box Class

Get ready to welcome autumn with a trio of the most charming Jack-O'-Lanterns you've ever seen! Taught by the amazing Christine Taylor-Leonard, this delightful project will have you grinning from ear to ear. Whether you choose to paint these adorable pumpkin faces on a box, a plaque, or anything your heart desires, they're sure to bring a touch of whimsy and warmth to any space. Imagine these happy little pumpkins lighting up your home and spreading smiles all season long—don't miss out on this spooktacularly fun class!

President's Message ...continued from page 1...

Positions to Fill – Your Time to Shine! ✨👋

Now is the time to make a real difference—OCTDP needs you! ☀️ Our future depends on passionate leaders and volunteers stepping up today. Take action and ensure our community thrives:

- President (2026–2027): Step forward to guide OCTDP into a bright future—your leadership is crucial.
- Orange County Fair (2026–2027): Help secure our spot and keep our club visible.
- Sheepfold Charity Coordinator: Be a force for good and help those in need.
- Nominating Committee Chair: Shape our future by connecting with members.
- Mystery Paint-In Chair (2026–2027): Keep our creativity alive—your support is vital!

Your involvement is the key to our success. Act now—OCTDP's future depends on it!

🌟 **Sandy Sadler – Your Enthusiastic President** ❤️🎨



OCTDP Class Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Place a ✓ next to the months you are registering for.
The **default for LIVE/ZOOM classes is ZOOM** unless participants opt for in-person attendance.

☐ **JUN**

Road Trip
Off-site
\$35

☐ **JUL**

Xmas Village
LIVE/ZOOM
\$25 (includes pattern fee)

☐ **AUG**

Jack-o-Lanterns
ZOOM only
\$20

☐ **OCT**

Angel Flock
LIVE/ZOOM
\$20

☐ **NOV**

All Aboard
ZOOM only
\$20

☐ In-person

☐ In-person

Fee for each class: ☐ Member: See above ☐ Non-Member: Add \$5

Total Paid: _____

Check #: _____ payable to OCTDP ☐ Cash ☐ Coupon ☐ Zelle: send fee to octdp.treasurer@gmail.com

Send this completed form with payment to:

Christine Schlager (caschlag42@aol.com)
9391 Breakwater Cir.
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

The prep instructions and line drawing will be emailed to you. Contact Christine if you don't have computer access and need a hardcopy. A class credit is issued if the class is canceled. You will receive the class instructions if you are unable to attend.

Rev 4/24/25

Upcoming Paint-Ins

Friday, August 8, 2025



This is a ZOOM class only

Zoom classroom opens at 9:00 a.m. PDT

Class begins at 9:30 a.m. PDT

Jack-o-Lanterns Box

Teacher: Christine Taylor-Leonard **Designer:** Maxine Thomas

Brand: DecoArt Americana

Design Area: 8 1/4" x 6 1/2" x 3"

Surface: Bentwood Box or surface of choice

Source: [PineCraft Inc](#) 20% off group order SKU#WD1150XS

Technique: Dry Brushing

Class fee: Members \$20, Guests \$25

Sign-Ups

Avis R	Bernice A	Christine S	Jean T	Laurie S
Linnea R	Miko F	Pat W	Penne K	Rose M
Sandy S	Susan B			

Friday, September 12, 2025



Mystery Paint-In

Teacher: Mys Tery

Brand: Revealed in class

Design Area: Unknown

Surface: Prepped surface provided in class

Source: Mystery Committee

Technique: Taught in class

Class fee: Members \$35, Guests \$40 – Includes lunch

Sign-Ups

Avis R	Carol E	Christine S	Esther C	Fran W
Jennie P	Laurie S	Linda M	Onya T	Pat S
Pat W	Rama S	Regina T	Rose M	Sandy S
Susan B	Tamara M			

See Page 6 for details

Friday, October 10, 2025



This is a Zoom and in-person class

Zoom and in-person classrooms open at 9:00 a.m. PST

Class begins after the general meeting, which starts at 9:30 a.m. PDT

Angel Flock

Teacher: Laurie Stewart CDA

Designer: Susan Jill Hall

Brand: DecoArt Americana

Design Area: Suitcase (canvas texture)- 20"W x 13"H

Composition book – 7"W x 9 1/2"H

Surface: any from stash

Source: Thrift store and Staples

Technique: Dry brush leaving dark background showing

Class fee: Members \$20, Guests \$25

Sign-Ups

Bernice A	Chris S	Linnea R	Lucinda A	Lynda L
Miko F	Nancy H	Pat W	Regina T	Rose M
Sandy S				

OCTDP 2025 Calendar


JULY 11 Paint-In/Meeting Live/Zoom  Christmas Village Board Rose Melgoza	AUGUST 8 Paint-In Zoom only  Jack-o-Lanterns Box Christine Taylor-Leonard	SEPTEMBER 12 Paint-In Live only <h1 style="text-align: center; color: purple;">MYSTERY</h1> 2026 Project Selection & Voting
OCTOBER 10 Paint-In/Meeting Live/Zoom  Angel Flock Laurie Stewart CDA	NOVEMBER 14 Paint-In Zoom only  All Aboard Lois Joachimstaler	DECEMBER 12 Party Live only <h1 style="text-align: center; color: purple;">HOLIDAY PARTY</h1>

Updated: 10/8/24



No raffles in August since we are zooming. I am excited about a donation of adult puzzles from a member of the scroll saw association. We will be selling them at future events. They are intricate in detail ready to paint. Makes for a unique gift or keepsake. So bring your money money to our next "Live" class.

Rose Melgoza, Fundraising Chairperson



June O'Connell 8/10

October is Decorative Painting Month

We're excited to see the beautiful projects you'll be submitting for Decorative Painting Month to post on Facebook! You can start sending them in now, if you'd like. Please email your project photos to Linda Martin - linda.a.martin926@gmail.com

Be sure to include: ♥ The original designer's name ♥ A brief description of the project

Once we receive your project photos, they will be posted on Facebook. People truly enjoy seeing hand-painted creations—thank you for sharing yours!

Penne Kitley, Decorative Painting Month Chairperson
Linda Martin, Publicity Chairperson

Mystery Paint-In Update

Hello Everyone,

Just a quick reminder that our *Mystery Paint* event is quickly approaching—and we're working together to make it a fun-filled day for all!

We've got a fantastic project lined up, a wonderful teacher, and a few special surprises in store.

Interesting Tidbit: *Did you know that this year's Mystery project was voted #2 as most liked at last year's Program selection in September.* It will be a great project to paint. Of course, I can't give away too much... it *is* a mystery, after all! 😊

Lunch will be provided by **Sandwich Hut**, with your choice of **ham, turkey, or vegetarian sandwich**. Our **Hospitality team** will also be on hand with **coffee, tea, and water**, and **donuts** will be provided. If anyone would like to contribute an additional treat or item, please let us know—we'd love it!

We currently have **17 members signed up**, and we'd love to see even more of you there. Mark your calendars for **September 12 at 9:00 AM**—it's going to be a great time!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Bernice Alvara, Mystery Paint-In Chairperson



MYSTERY PAINT-IN Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Class Date: September 12, 2025

Teacher: Miss Tree

LIVE IN PERSON ONLY

Class Fee: ☐ Member: \$35 ☐ Non-Member \$40

Check #: _____ payable to OCTDP ☐ Cash ☐ Coupon

☐ Zelle: send fee to octdp.treasurer@gmail.com

E-Mail or mail this completed for to:

Bernice Alvara
1865 W. Surf Dr.
Anaheim, CA 92801

bernicealvara@sbcglobal.net

714-390-9430



In preparation for the Fair, 450 rocks were washed (generously donated by the Fair), supplies were delivered and organized, and our booth was ready to “rock and roll” by 11am. Christine S and Debbie H were there for set-up and Miko came to complete our opening crew and take lots of pictures.

The day started off slowly but quickly gained momentum—so much so by the end of the evening, we had to turn people away.

“Find Your Happy” is the Fair theme and Sandy Sadler won the theme award with her happy, smiling little girl. Congrats, Sandy!!

12 artists entered projects in the Tole Painting category

And the winners are (alphabetically):

- | | |
|---|--|
| ❖ Anne Engle <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1-First, 1-Second, 1-Third | ❖ Onya Tolmasoff <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 2-Firsts, 1-Second, 1-Third, 1-Honorable Mention, 2-Judges Awards |
| ❖ Christine Schlager <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 2-Seconds, 1-Honorable Mention | ❖ Patty Newell <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1-First, 1-Third, 1-Honorable Mention |
| ❖ Debbie Hickey <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 2-Seconds, 1-Third, 1-Honorable Mention | ❖ Rose Melgoza <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 2-Thirds |
| ❖ June O’Connell <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1-First | ❖ Sandy Sadler <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1-First, 1-Second, 2-Honorable Mentions, Theme Award |
| ❖ Linda Martin <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1-First, 3-Honorable Mentions | ❖ Susan Bradbury <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1-First place, 1-Honorable Mention, Division Winner |

On Sunday morning, the Fair staff dusted, organized and ‘spit-shined’ the Anaheim Building, preparing us for a busy day. We seemed to have some ‘repeats’. There were 3 women who marked Sunday as their 3rd time painting together at the Fair- it was the highlight of their day, and they were lots of fun!

We met couples and singles, young and old, talented and those only there to have fun. All artists were excited to relax and paint for “FREE”! We sparked some interest in our club and hope to see some of the artists at our future Paint-Ins.

There were 432 people interested in painting with us at the Fair, but it was difficult to accommodate everyone. We had 18 shifts that were filled by 11 of our members. A big “thanks” to everyone who stepped up!

We are looking for new volunteers for next year, especially a coordinator to keep our Fair visits going. The Fair is so much fun so, go to the Fair and “Find Your Happy” before it closes August 17!

Susan Bradbury
OC Fair Coordinator







Tips, techniques and tools to grow as an artist

How AI Can Help a Decorative Painter Thrive in the Modern World

Tole painting is a timeless decorative art rooted in tradition, detail, and heart. But even as we continue to dip our brushes into heritage styles—roses, scrolls,

flourishes, and folk designs—we're also living in a fast-changing, digital world. Surprisingly, one of the newest tools available to artists today is **artificial intelligence (AI)**. While it might sound technical or impersonal, AI can actually be a helpful, creative companion for any tole painter.

Whether you're a hobbyist, a teacher, or a professional decorative artist, here are some meaningful ways AI can support and enhance your tole painting journey.

Get Inspired with AI-Generated Designs - Stuck on what to paint next? AI image generators can help create original floral compositions, scrollwork layouts, or border ideas—based on the style you describe. You can ask for “a folk-art tray design with blue flowers and gold scrolls on a dark background,” and receive several design inspirations within minutes.

These aren't finished paintings—they're *starting points* you can adapt with your own flair. It's like having a design assistant who never sleeps!

Improve Techniques with On-Demand Guidance - Need a refresher on floating medium? Want help perfecting your comma stroke? AI (like ChatGPT) can explain techniques, suggest brush types, or offer tips for blending, shading, and color mixing.

If you're teaching or learning, this can be a quick, reliable reference right at your fingertips.

Create Instruction Sheets or Pattern Guides - AI can help turn your painting process into step-by-step written instructions—perfect for sharing in classes, writing e-books, or selling digital downloads online. You provide the steps, and AI can help polish the language, organize the layout, or translate it into other languages.

Want to add a materials list or helpful hints? AI can help you create a professional-looking guide faster than ever.

Expand Your Artistic Horizons - Want to blend traditional tole painting with modern trends? AI can help you brainstorm ways to fuse styles—like mixing Scandinavian Rosemaling with Art Deco, or combining folk art with Bohemian floral motifs.

You can also ask AI to help develop a seasonal collection of patterns—Spring, Fall, Holiday, or Coastal themes—all adapted to your painting style.

Final Thoughts

AI isn't here to replace your brush—it's here to support it. Think of it as a digital assistant that helps you dream bigger, work smarter, and share your art more widely. Whether you paint for joy, for teaching, or for business, AI can help tole painters blend tradition with innovation.

Your art is still handmade, heart-filled, and uniquely yours. AI just helps clear the path so you can paint more of what you love.

This article was created with assistance from the AI tool - ChatGPT. 😊



Thank you for everyone's generosity. With the items that members have signed up for and the cash that was collected. We will be able to fill all of the lovely painted bags that are being painted with supplies and gift cards.

REMINDER- a list of the items and who has promised to supply each one:

- Avis R- 15 Nail Supplies
- Beverly- 6 shampoo with matching conditioner
- Laurie S- 15 Body Lotions and 15 Shower caps
- Penne K- 15 Pkg of Razors
- Sandy S- 15 Chapstick or Lip gloss and 15 Hairbrushes
- Bernice A- 15 Bath Sponges
- Debbie Hickey- 12 dental floss and 15 notepads
- Lucinda- 15 pens
- Rose M- 15 deodorant

*** I listed the items that I have not yet received.

Susan Bradbury, Charity-Sheepfold Chairperson



OCTDP Officers & Committees 2025

President

Sandy Sadler 714-814-9575

1st Vice President - Programs

Pat Wendorf 714-862-7327

Program Assistant

Christine Schlager 714-943-8700

2nd Vice President – Fundraising

Rose Melgoza 714-886-7694

Fundraising Assistant

Lucinda Aranda..... 626-991-4443

3rd Vice President - Membership

Laurie Stewart CDA ... 714-423-3151

Secretary

Onya Tolmasoff 949-291-5764

Treasurer

Rose Melgoza 714-886-7694

Charity-Puzzles

Laurie Stewart CDA ... 714-423-3151

Charity-Sheepfold

OPEN

Corresponding Secretary

Penne Kitley 562-694-3211

Decorative Painting Month

Penne Kitley 562-694-3211

Drawing/Donation Coordinator

Rose Melgoza 714-886-7694

Historian

Miko Frey CDA..... 917-453-8723

Holiday Party

Susan Bradbury 949-275-0640

Christine Schlager 714-943-8700

Holiday Party Assistants

Lucinda Aranda 626-991-4443

Pat Salios 714-925-6712

Hospitality

Debbie Hickey 714-402-4544

Mystery Paint-In

Bernice Alvara 714-390-9430

Newsletter Editor

Rama Shotwell 949-235-5215

Nominating Committee

OPEN

OC Fair Coordinator

Susan Bradbury 949-275-0640

OC Fair Asst.

Carol Lembke 714-614-4690

Publicity

Linda Martin 949-370-6753

Seminars

Avis Randall 714-637-0779

Webmistress/Email Liaison

Pat Wendorf 714-862-7327

OCTDP General Meeting – July 11, 2025

In person & via zoom

The meeting was called to order by Sandy S. at 9:27 a.m.

Treasurer: Rose M. reported that we have \$13,001.13 in checking account.

Programs: Pat W. presented the following upcoming projects:

- August – Jack O’Lantern. Chris S. showed a pumpkin plaque available at Hobby Lobby as possible surface for those interested.
- October – Painted Suitcase or design can also be sized to paint on a journal as a possibility

Pat W. encouraged people to sign up.

Mystery Paint-In: Bernice A. encouraged members to sign up ASAP and send application & payments to her. The goal is 30 sign-ups. Hint –it was the 2nd highest project voted on in September. Linda M. posted event on Facebook.

Fundraiser: Rose M. has 5 Raffle Bundles for today. Lucinda A. will be selling tickets. Rose also received 2 large donations of items for future fundraising events.

Membership: Laurie S. stated we have 59 members. 2025 Dues are now 1/2 off. She will start collecting 2026 in September.

Holiday Party: Susan B. & Chris S. stated all is going great and on track.

Charity: Sheepfold – Susan B. has a list of items needed for the canvas bags that members are painting. She would like to have all items and bags by October 10th or before.

Puzzles – Laurie S. has puzzles to hand out. She would like to have them no later than November 1st so that the OC Scroll Assn. can distribute them by end of November.

Corresponding Secretary: Penne K. has sent a card to Patricia Gemmell and continues to send out Birthday wishes, get well wishes etc. as needed.

Decorative Painting Month: Penne K. stated that Linda M. will be posting on Facebook in October. Email photos to Linda M. @ Linda.a.martin926@gmail.com

Historian: Miko F. will be taking photos at the fair in our booth and entries. She asked if others could send photos to her as well at tole Blossom@gmail.com.

OC Fair: Susan B shared that we will be painting rocks for the Make-It-Take-It activity. She has not yet received any updates regarding awards given to the items entered. Additionally, she is looking for someone to step up and take over her role for next year.

Publicity: No report

Hospitality: No report

Newsletter: No report

Seminar: No report

Web/email liaison: No report

New Business: None

Old Business: Sandy S. reported the Board has agreed that beginning January 2026 we will be moving to a new location at: First Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid, Garden Grove, CA (cross streets; Chapman & Euclid). Current location has proved to be costly and difficult to negotiate pricing. New location has many pluses and is half the cost. Sandy S. & Pat W. will be finalizing details and the contract.

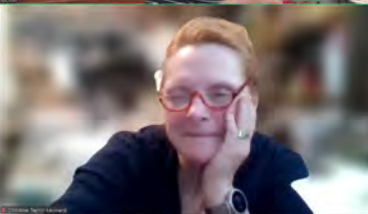
Laurie S. moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 a.m. – seconded by Bernice A. – motion carried

Submitted by:

Onya Tolmasoff, Secretary



July Class with Rose





Orange County Tole & Decorative Painters

octdp.com

Membership Application

☐ New member

☐ Renewal

☐ Lifetime

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PREFERRED Phone (CIRCLE) Home or Cell _____

Birthday Month/Day _____ E-mail _____

Membership dues are \$20 annually. (A late fee of \$5, for renewal, will be charged after Dec. 31)

To have a copy of the Newsletter (in Black and White) MAILED, add \$20.

NEW Members who join after July 1st, pay a prorated ½ price of \$10

I agree to participate as a-

☐ General Member -I plan to be an active member and regularly attend meetings and Paint-ins.
I wish to receive the Newsletter electronically.

☐ Member -OUT OF THE AREA and will receive the Newsletter and Members Directory electronically.

May we print your name, address & phone number in our Members' Directory? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you own a tole related business? ☐ Yes ☐ No Name of business _____

Are you a Decorative Painting teacher? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have "skills or interest" in any of the following volunteer positions? Yes _____ No _____

☐ President
☐ 1st VP Programs
☐ 2nd VP Fundraising Monthly/Annual
☐ 3rd VP Membership
☐ Treasurer
☐ Secretary

☐ Charity
☐ Committee member
☐ Corresponding Secretary
☐ Decorative Painting Month
☐ Historian
☐ Holiday Party
☐ Hospitality
☐ Mystery Paint-in Coordinator
☐ Newsletter Editor

☐ Nominating
☐ Orange County Fair
☐ Publicity
☐ Seminar Coordinator
☐ Webmistress/ E-mail Liaison
☐ Other _____ ☐

Make checks payable to **OCTDP** and mail with this completed Membership form to:

Laurie Stewart CDA, 18231 Winn Circle, Villa Park, CA 92861

FORM OF PAYMENT (please circle) CASH...CHECK...ZELLE (send fee to octdp.treasurer@gmail.com)

rev 9/17/24

Tole Tattler

Sandra Sadler

12142 Acacia Ave.

Garden Grove, CA 92840



First Class Mail

Post Office.....Please Deliver To:

Artiste Extraordinaire !

Chapter at-a-Glance

August 8th – Christine Taylor-Leonard

September 12 – Mystery Paint-In

October 10 – Laurie Stewart, CDA

Paint-ins or General Meetings begin at 9:30 am



QR Code, Scan with your phone to be taken to OCTDP.com website