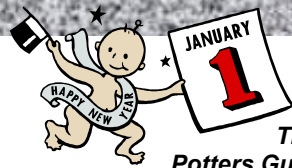


Clay Notes

JANUARY 2012



Clay Notes,
the
monthly
Triangle
Potters Guild

newsletter, and the TPG membership form are available at

www.trianglepotters.org

To get your announcements and news in the newsletter, send to:

trianglepottersguild@yahoo.com

by the 15th of each month.

Our monthly meetings

are held on the first Tuesday of each month (no meetings June, July and August) at 7:30 pm. We will meet at the NCSU Craft Center, 100 Jensen Dr, Raleigh, NC.

Visitors are Welcome!

TPG BOARD

President

Jo Ellen Westmoreland

jo_westmoreland@ncsu.edu

Vice President

Jimmy Sodano

sodanopottery@yahoo.com

Corresponding

Secretary

Joanne Wood

252-478-5385

jobear0101@peoplepc.com

Treasurer

Elise Stiles

stilesel@aol.com

Recording Secretary

Neal O'Briant

neal126@yahoo.com

Librarian

Christina Sydor

clsydor@gmail.com

NEXT TPG MEETING

Date: Tuesday, January 3, 2012

Location: NCSU Craft Center,
Thompson Hall, NCSU,

100 Jensen Dr, Raleigh

Time: 7:30 pm

Parking is available in the parking deck directly across from The Crafts Center entrance. You may be ticketed or towed if you park on the street – this is student parking only.

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Frank Neef

Submitted by Jimmy Sodano

I first met Frank Neef at Artsposure this past spring. What impressed me most about his work were these simple forms that were transformed by an



array of geometric shapes and patterns that create overwhelming elegance. Throw on a seemingly endless color pallet of crystalline glazes that jumps out at you and you find yourself

standing there in mouth opening awe. I was lucky enough to interview Frank and his wife while I was in the Seagrove area this summer.

Frank began his journey in 1975 with a college pottery class. Some say clay has a way of getting in your blood and this was no different for Frank. As a full time production potter in Branson MO he developed an understanding of crystalline glazes and pierced porcelain forms. His influences came from the Korean Potters of the Koryo Dynasty and the classic shapes created during the Song Dynasty in China.

His journey of crystalline and carving seems to never end. "You'll never master it," Frank says as he stands in front of a shelving rack filled with seconds that couldn't be my first on my best days.



MEETING MINUTES

TPG December 2011

Business Meeting

Recorded by: Neal O'Briant

President Jo Ellen Westmoreland welcomed returning members, new members, and guests.

Minutes: Recording Secretary Neal O'Briant asked if anyone had changes to the minutes from November as posted in the newsletter. Minutes were approved.

Library Report: Christina Sydor asked members for suggested titles of books and videos to add to the library.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Joanne Wood reported that she had sent the newsletter and membership list out. New members are color-coded in blue and officers are in green.

Joanne mentioned that she had received information about next year's Tails at Twilight gala. The guild took part in the one last March. Someone will need to volunteer to coordinate if we are to participate as a guild.

Treasurer's Report: Elise Stiles reported that there are 84 members. The guild's bank account balance is roughly \$5,400.

Refreshments: Jo Ellen thanked Lauren Brockman for bringing refreshments. Carol Clark volunteered to bring refreshments in January.

Urban Ministries: Emily Malpass reported on the success of the Stone Soup fundraiser for Urban Ministries. She thanked everyone who contributed bowls and those who helped at the lunch or supper. She did not have the final amount raised at the events, but the preliminary total was about \$35,000, including about \$7,500 for bowls. Julia Jones won the raffle for a \$100 gift certificate to Highwater Clay in the drawing from those who donated at least five bowls. Anyone with feedback about the event can contact Emily.

President's Report: Jo Ellen said that the registration for the Ben Own workshop was now open to the public. She reminded members that the February meeting will be the Friday night of the workshop.

New Business: Jo Ellen announced that it was time to start forming a nominating committee for next year's officers. Anyone interested in serving on the committee should let her know by the January meeting. Jo Ellen and Jimmy opened the sealed bids for the Shimpo wheel. There were four. Edge Barnes won with a winning bid of \$479.
Vice President's Report: Jimmy Sodano talked about his meeting with

Hallmark. The stores are independently owned. Hallmark was offering to purchase works wholesale, paying just 40 percent of retail. Jimmy said the offer did not work for him, but he made some connections and told members that he learned that there are other venues for potters to pursue in selling. Jimmy introduced the speaker: Julie Fischer of Brasstown.

Program: Julie Fischer introduced her domestic partner and studio mate, Harry Hearn. Their studio's website, <http://www.turningpointclaystudio.com>, includes information about glazes. She also introduced her friend Helen White, who lives in Raleigh. Julie presented a slide show of her studio and works. She gave four tips: (1) everyone has problems glazing. (2) Don't underestimate the importance of glaze testing. A good New Year's resolution is to have at least one test tile in each kiln load. Her tests include layering different glazes on top of each other. (3) Work with various glaze application techniques: dipping, pouring, brushing, and spraying. (4) Don't be overconfident in what the kiln says. Use witness cones and pay attention to loading. Julie demonstrated how she joins pieces to form her larger works. She also brought several pieces, including some with her image transfers.

TPG EVENTS from Donna Kanich...

The Workshop Committee is very excited to report that the **Ben Owen Workshop** is full.

MEMBER NEWS from Cheryl Weisz ...

A Whole Pack of Puppies!

Cheryl Weisz is teaching an evening class on how to form a 3-D puppy out of clay and put him/her on doggie treat jars or kibble casseroles. This fun part sculpture-part hand-building course will result in 5" x 6" pups lying on their backs looking up at you adoringly. This 6 week course allows time for all steps in the process including glazing and final firing and the production of at least 5 pups. **Skill level: Easy.** Step-by-step written instructions and demonstrations included. Bring a picture of your favorite pup, all breeds welcome.

Pullen Arts Center

105 Pullen Road, Raleigh NC

Registration info: (919)996-6126

Tuesday evenings, Jan 10 - Feb 14

Cost: Wake County residents: \$78.

Out of County: \$88

from Jim Fatata...

"LATITUDE, an ECLETIC ART EXHIBIT" showcasing local artists will be at Litmus Gallery & Studios, 312 W. Cabarrus St., Raleigh, through January 31. Gallery and resident artists' studios are open 6-9 PM on First Fridays, Wednesdays from 3 PM to 7 PM, and by appointment. The art in this exhibit presents an exploration of color, precision, proportion and texture. Lovers of figurative, abstract and functional art will be delighted by the creative energy and variety of art. Exhibit includes Painting, Pottery, Sculpture and Mixed Media.

Contact: www.litmusgallery.com

Email: artvision@bellsouth.net

New Figurative Sculpture Sessions start January 21, 24, and 26 at Litmus Gallery & Studios in Raleigh. Visit www.litmusgallery.com for details.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST...

2012 NC Potters Conference

The **2012 NC Potters Conference** will be held on March 2 thru March 4.

This 25th year's program celebrates the experience and mastery of potters Cynthia Bringle, John Glick, and Jack Troy. These legendary potters have selected Ronan Peterson, Martha Glover and Jake Johnson to represent the future of pottery at the conference. All will demonstrate and discuss their philosophies with attendees.

There are only 150 spaces available so plan to register soon if you plan to attend.

More information is available and online registration starts on Wednesday, December 28 at this website at www.randolphartsguild.com.

Southern Entrepreneurship in the Arts Conference

You are invited to attend the **Southern Entrepreneurship in the Arts**

Conference to be held on Saturday, February 11, 2012 in at the Elliott university Center at UNC Greensboro.

The conference features successful professionals like fine artist Beverly McIver, sculptor Jim Galluci and many others in stimulating presentations and panel discussions designed to help advance the careers of visual, literary and performing artists. For all the details, go to www.seac.uncg.edu

Seating is limited, so reserve your spot today!

Sponsored by:

Opportunity Greensboro,

Self Employment in the Arts and the NC Entrepreneurship Center

Carolina Claymatters Pottery Guild Winter Workshop

Featuring Artists Bill Van Guilder and Silvie Granatelli

Dates: February 18 and 19, 2012

Workshop Location:

CPCC Clay Studio

Center For Arts Technology Building

4th St, Charlotte NC

Registration Fee: \$65 Members

Non-Members \$125

(Fee Includes Two Day Workshop, Continental Breakfast and Lunch both days)

Questions? Contact: Valerie Hawkins

at (704)563-7766 or e-mail

vhawkins1@carolina.rr.com

MUSEUM VASE

By Robert Francis, 1901 - 1987

It contains nothing.

We ask it

To contain nothing.

Having transcended use

It is endlessly

Content to be.

Still it broods

On old burdens --

Wheat, oil, wine.

(Editor's Note: Jennie Bireline sent this wonderful poem. It appears that Robert Francis was not a potter (I looked online) but I believe he conveys the fact that "pots are molded from clay but it's the hollow that makes a pot work". Tao Te Ching)

LINKS

The Crafts Center

www.ncsu.edu/crafts

(919) 515-2457

Sertoma Arts Center

www.raleighnc.gov

(919) 420-2329

Pullen Arts Center

www.raleighnc.gov

(919) 831-6126

Claymakers

www.claymakers.com

(919) 530-8355

Durham Arts Council

www.durhamarts.org

(919) 560-2726

Jordan Hall Arts Center

www.townofcary.org

(919) 469-4069

Central Carolina Community

College (CCCC)

www.cccc.edu

Finch Pottery

www.danfinch.com

(252) 235-4664

(919) 742-4156

Litmus Gallery

www.litmusgallery.com

(919) 571-3605