

Clay Notes

OCTOBER 2010

Clay Notes, the monthly **Triangle Potters Guild** newsletter, and the TPG membership form are now 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 be meeting 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

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susisolar@aol.com

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252-478-5385
jobear0101@peoplepc.com

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ltbrockman@hotmail.com

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Neal O'Briant
neal126@yahoo.com

Librarian

Christina Sydor
csydor@embarqmail.com

NEXT TPG MEETING

Date: Tuesday, October 5th
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.

OCTOBER PROGRAM featuring Gail Lawson



l to r: portrait sculpture of Mary Ann Purser, the model Mary Ann, and artist Gail Lawson

Gail Lawson has been interested in portraiture her entire life. As a child, she sketched friends and family with whatever was at hand – pencil, pen, crayon, etc. As an adult, she studied with various people and studios to learn the mediums of pastel, oil, watercolor and acrylic.

Painting is a very important part of Gail's life, and people are her favorite subjects. Over eight years ago, Gail began to search for someone to teach her the basics of working with clay in order to render her subjects in full dimension. To be able to run her hands over the face with her eyes closed was a fascinating idea for her.

After being recommended to Dan Finch Pottery Studio, she began to learn about construction, drying, firing, glazing, etc. With the help of many workshops and classes, she has developed her own style of working with clay to form platters, sculpture and portraits.

Gail has studied with several accomplished portrait sculptors over the years, including Bruce Everly and Philippe Faraut. She

also teaches workshops in portrait sculpture using mainly the Faraut method of constructing the basic head.

TPG EVENTS

Bowls Bowls Bowls

50 down and 250 bowls to go for this year's **Urban Ministries Stone Soup Supper** on November 16, 2010.

Please help us donate 300 bowls, mugs or plates again this year to help fund the Urban Ministries – a non-profit agency that provides medical care, prescriptions, food and other help to the non-insured working poor.

A large part of Urban Ministries' budget comes from our bowls so we really do make a big difference!

And remember that for every 5 bowls you bring in, you receive a chance on a \$100 gift certificate at Highwater Clay.

Please note:

- Bowls, mugs and plates must be able to sit flat with no cracks
- Bowls, mugs and plates may be left at the Crafts Center during business hours
- Please be sure your name is included in the box so that you get credit for your bowls

For more information, email Donna Kanich at dkanich@earthlink.net.

TPG CLAY DEMONSTRATIONS

By Cheryl Weisz

After the first year of fielding requests by organizations and individuals looking for potters to demonstrate pottery skills at various functions, I think we have ironed out the bugs and are looking forward to a busy and interesting year. (Thank you so much Susan Luster for being the first to help get us on track) Here's what we have learned:

- 1) The majority of requests come from schools, garden clubs and

individuals looking for birthday party entertainment.

2) Paying the demonstrator \$50/hour directly helps TPG by not contributing to the additional bookkeeping.

3) We had decided to offer our member demonstrations by the region in which they lived closest to the requesting organization. This did not work very well as many requests were located in the same areas. So, we have changed it to a: I send out an email fishing for interest based upon the requesting party's details. b: The first member to respond is put in touch directly with the requesting party and they work it out from there.

So...I will be sending around a new sign-up sheet for the 2011 year at the October 5th TPG meeting. If you are interested, please do sign up and I'll put you in the loop. If you shan't be at the meeting, feel free to e-mail me (Cheryl Weisz) at cweisz@nc.rr.com with your name, phone, area of expertise (hand-building or wheel) and what items you make (functional, decorative, etc).

Thanks.

Your friendly TPG Clay Demonstrator Coordinator (I like the sound of that - giggle)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Teapots and Altering Form on the Wheel with Jamie Kirkpatrick



example of Jamie Kirkpatrick's work

**Saturday & Sunday
Nov 20, 21... 9 am - 4 pm**

**Pullen Arts Center
105 Pullen Rd
Raleigh, NC**

Class Fee:

**\$120 City of Raleigh residents
\$130 for Non-residents**

Pre-registration at least 5 days in advance is required.

Please call the Pullen Arts Center at 919-996-6126 for instructions on how to register.

OTHER EVENTS

Centennial Campus

Middle School, 1900 Main Campus Drive, Raleigh, NC announces our 3rd Annual Fall Frolic Craft & Gift Fair Oct. 23 from 9 am to 3 pm.

Events are planned on campus for students and parents which include entertainment, a pumpkin sale, food, a silent auction, a raffle and more!

The deadline is Oct. 8.

Booths are available for \$50 (\$10 extra for a table (table can be shared) or electricity.

To apply, go to our website at <http://sites.google.com/site/ccmscraftfair>.

For questions, email us at ccmscraftfair@gmail.com. Proceeds go to the CCMS PTA.

Sarah Peters, Kelly Blades – coordinators

The Annual Dan Finch Studio Potters' Open

House will be held **Sunday November 14, 10 am – 5 pm** at the Dan Finch Blueberry Nursery located on Hwy 581 North in Bailey.

There will be pottery for sale from over 60 potters including Dan Finch.

In addition to pottery and sculpture, there will also be for sale ... jewelry, wooden bowls, blueberry plants and Jack Finch's Home for the Bluebirds boxes.

The Open House will occur **rain or shine**. There will also be raku firings. For the purchase of a \$20 bisqued pot, you get to

glaze it yourself and then shop while it is being fired.

For more information about the show, go to www.danfinch.com.

The Arts Council of Wilson

will feature Dan Finch & Finch Studio Potters at an upcoming pottery exhibit.

Exhibit Dates: Oct 7 thru Nov 8

Location: 124 Nash St SW, Wilson NC

Reception: Oct 8 at 5:30 to 7:30 (free reception is hosted by Finch studio potters)

www.wilsonarts.com

Studio Sale for the Dorothy Davis Scholarship Fund

by Lois Sharpe, Clayworks

Pepper Fluke and I have cleaned Dorothy Davis's studio!

ALL proceeds from this sale will benefit a scholarship fund to honor Dorothy who passed away earlier this year.

SUNDAY

October 10, 1 pm to 4 pm

Sale will be held at my home.

Lois Sharpe
3442 Rugby Rd
Durham NC 27707

sharpe.pots@gpe.net

The following items are for sale.

- **OHAS SCALE** with tare weights
 - **BAKERS RACKS** - 3 with shelves included!
 - **BISQUE** - texture tools, and press molds,
 - **SHELVES** - her display standards. These are hinged ladder type with shelves.
 - **TOOLS** - large assortment of unusual tools, from wood blocks to glaze scoops
 - **TILES**- lots of her beautiful flower designs on tiles. Large assortment of tiles.
 - **MOSAICS**
 - Dorothy was a **mosaic master** and made her own tiny glazed square tiles.
 - **BOOKS** - large assortment
- Please no requests for previews or holds.

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to **Emily Lees, Theresa Glisson**, and **Martin Stankus** who will have their work featured in the Spring 2011 release of **500 Raku Pots** published by Lark Publications. Potters submitted photos of their work to Lark for consideration. Emily had two pieces accepted and Martin and Theresa each had one piece accepted.

Earlier Lark 500 series books focused on pitchers, plates & chargers, bowls, clay sculpture, tiles, etc., as well as non-ceramic crafts. There's virtually no text, just photos with descriptions and credits ... they are great for seeing what other potters are doing. Emily Lees had two pots featured in **500 Vases** as well. Lark books are sold through various clay-related websites and Amazon.

Bill & Joyce Newton sent three entries to the **Carolina's Got Art** juried show.

They didn't make it into the show, but Larry Elder of **Elder's Gallery** on South Blvd in Charlotte selected one piece for his gallery.

The exhibit is from Oct 15 to Nov 30.

Here is the totem, "**Being On Top Isn't All It's Cracked Up To Be**" and a link to the gallery.

<http://www.elderart.com/>

FOR FREE!

I have every Ceramics Monthly from about 1976, plus several years of Clay Times plus several years of Pottery Making Illustrated. They can be yours for just getting them out of my Durham attic!

Contact Cindy Aldrich at cindyaldrich@gmail.com



MEETING MINUTES

TPG September 2010 Business Meeting

President **Jo Ellen**

Westmoreland welcomed new members and visitors.

Minutes: Recording secretary Neal O'Briant one correction to the minutes from the May meeting: Christina Sydor had volunteered to help Donna Kanich with the bowls for the Stone Soup Supper. Minutes were approved as modified.

Library Report: Nancy Schecter reported that the library had received two new DVDs during the summer: *Beginning Raku* and *Variations on Raku*, both by Gordon Hutchens. The DVDs need to be copied before they're allowed to be checked out.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Joanne Wood reported she will get names and addresses from Ray Weeks or Lauren Brockman for the people who receive newsletters by U.S. Mail. She encouraged all members to send her news for the newsletter.

N.C. State Fair: Johanna New reported that she had talked with Kenneth Neilsen about the guild's participation at the pottery tent at the N.C. State Fair. She said D.K. Clay will provide shelves. The commission on sales is 35 percent. She made a signup sheet for members interested in participating.

Urban Ministries: Christina Sydor announced that we still need bowls for the Stone Soup Supper on November 16. The goal is 300 bowls. November 10 is the deadline for receiving bowls. She also mentioned that the guild will need volunteers the night of the supper. Members who contribute five bowls will be entered into a drawing for \$100 gift certificate to Highwater Clays. Seven members made about 45 bowls during throwing events at the Crafts Center. Christina passed out slips to remind people to bring bowls.

Workshop Committee: Jo Ellen announced that Ellen Shankin

will do a demonstration workshop for the guild on March 26 and 27. There will be a free lecture the night before. Guild members will receive first chance to register and will receive a lower priced registration fee. Registration will probably begin in December. Jo Ellen thanked the other members of the Workshop Committee: Edge Barnes, Lu Raye Nichol, Christina Sydor, and Donna Kanich, chair of the committee.

Refreshments: Jo Ellen provided refreshments and asked for a volunteer for October. The member providing refreshments is reimbursed for expenses up to \$25. Gail Lawson volunteered to bring refreshments for the October meeting. Elise Stiles volunteered to bring refreshment for the November meeting.

Announcements:

Jo Ellen announced that the Crafts Center holiday sale would be Saturday, November 20. Sign up by October 1. There will be a lottery if more people sign up than there is space for. The cost for guild members is \$100. The cost for Crafts Center participants is \$75. The cost for NCSU students is \$35. She also said the pots from the TPG show in the window galleries of the Crafts Center were available for pick up from the front desk. She encouraged guild members to look at the classes offered.

Conrad Weiser is teaching a raku workshop the weekend of October 16. There is a new raku kiln they'll be using.

John Jenkins announced that the Coastal Carolina Clay Guild has a show at the North Carolina Pottery Center in Sanford through November 13.

Sasha Bakaric announced that the FRANK gallery in Chapel Hill has the N.C. Clay Invitational show going on September 10 through October 24. Each Thursday night at the gallery is a salon night with various presenters. Mark Hewitt will be there at 7 p.m. on September

23, and Terry Zug will be there at 6 p.m. on September 30.

DIRECTIONS: Native Clay exhibit has an opening reception at Meredith College at 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 12, in the Weems Gallery. It lasts through October 30.

Arts Education Week begins on September 12.

Program: **Susan Luster** asked members to email her program suggestions. She is working on finishing the schedule for the coming year. She started off the September sharing program by showing off extruded boxes and an extruded vase she has started making. **Chris Campbell** and several other members mentioned using plastic grocery bags and the plastic bags newspapers come in to keep extruder clean.

Neal O'Briant brought hump cutoff tool that he had purchased with the gift certificate from Highwater Clays. It's a tool similar to one Julie Olson used in a lid-making class. He bought an extra. **Elise Stiles** won it by having the closest birthday.

Al Headen brought a large bowl glazed with shino and copper red.

Joanne Wood showed off photos of bowls she had made using a technique for multi-layer etching using shellac on porcelain. She had tried the technique with her granddaughter. She learned about it from the July issue of *Pottery Making Illustrated*.

Gail Lawson brought a large lion's head plaque that could be used as a fountainhead or wall hanging. She also brought several small pig figurines that she makes with leftover clay.

Martin Stankus brought a raku vase he had fired in the spring raku workshop at the Crafts Center. He had used stickers and tape for resist. He also said he has been working on building his home studio over the summer.

Emily Lees brought an Asian influenced tray that she handbuilt from Standard 266,

which is a dark brown cone 6 clay. She fired it in an electric kiln.

Jo Ellen Westmoreland brought Warner Hyde's large demo piece from the May meeting. She had fired it in the Crafts Center kiln to cone 10. It was made of native clay with shards of porcelain, glass, and a deer skull. The skull survived firing, but will eventually dissolve if exposed to water.

Sasha Bakaric brought a small round vase that she had sgraffitoed. She sprays terra sigillata with black stain onto her thrown pieces. She likes using fleece material for buffing cars and buffs the terra sig while it is still damp. She uses cone 6 Loafer's Glory.

Tanya Casteel brought several white stoneware pieces decorated with ocean imagery. She uses toner decals and paper resist and underglazes. She had also carved designs in a couple of pieces.

Cheryl Weisz brought a sushi platter decorated with an owl. She said she has a new slab roller. She uses a brush with iron oxide to outline areas and then brushes on glazes to fill in.

Christina Sydor brought extruded and altered pieces from her summer workshop with Michael Sherrill at Penland. The pieces are painted with various layers of slips and then buffed with steel wool to expose different layers before being fired.

John Jenkins brought samples of brushes and wooden tools he makes, including throwing sticks, ribs, paddles, and needle tools.

Chris Campbell, president of the Potters Council, mentioned that she needs leads for gallery space in Seattle for NCECA in 2012.

Amy Axon brought a large burnished raku pot that she had made in 1984.

Slippery Trails...

By Joanne Wood

I invite you all to share thoughts, helpful tips, or reflections with your fellow TPG potters. Please send to trianglepottersguild@yahoo.com.

And since I ALWAYS seem to have something to say, I'll start in this month's issue.

In the Helpful Tip category, I recommend that you save those used plastic Shower Curtains or liners!

From my Personal experience... used shower curtains make great work table covers during pit fires, they cover electric kilns nicely with a bungee cord, they cover my fire wood in the winter, and they even cover the floor when a granddaughter paints a chair to earn some money. Trust me! In this case, you will need a couple used shower curtains!

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