

Clay Notes

the monthly newsletter of the
Triangle Potters Guild

March 2019

www.trianglepotters.org.

Join our Outreach listserv to learn about and post upcoming events. Check the Resources page on the website.

Send your pictures for the Web to Theresa Glisson /Webmaster
taglisson@gmail.com

We meet monthly at 7 pm
on the 1st Tuesday at the
NCSU Crafts Center
(no meetings in
June, July, and August)

2018 - 2019 TPG Board

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Next TPG Demo & General Meeting

Date: April 2, 2019

Location: NCSU Crafts Center, 100 Jensen Dr. Raleigh

Time: 7:00 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.

April Program:

Sylvia Coppola

<http://duckcreekpottery.com>

Sylvia Coppola writes: In the mid seventies, while in college at Western Carolina University, I took my first pottery class. I continued with clay classes and enjoyed it so much that I decide to concentrate in pottery with a second concentration in jewelry. After graduating with a BFA degree, I bought a wheel and kiln and continued to make pots. I also loved weaving and basketry and for several years sold all four crafts. Eventually, clay took over and there was little time for other crafts.

Since beginning in clay, my work has evolved. I started off in college with reduction firing in a gas kiln, carving designs on pots and using Asian brush strokes. Then I moved on to mid range firing in an electric kiln. Early on, I did a lot of layering of glazes and experimenting with the results of one glaze over another. Then I went on to do a lot of hand painting with underglazes. I painted a lot of irises, and other flowered motifs. After several years of this I moved on to carving bands of lines, fish, or rabbits on my pottery. In April of 2004, I purchased a gas kiln made by Larry Fincannon of Sure Fire Mfg. and again started making high fired reduction pottery. I changed my glazes and my pottery designs. When I make a pot on the wheel, I often alter the form to create a more interesting piece. After it dries to almost leather hard, I use different tools, some of which I made, to carve into the clay and add textures to the outside of the pot. Textures have always been of interest to me, which may partially be related to my past work as a weaver and basket maker. My current approach to making pottery is to emphasize handles and feet on the pots and how they relate to the form. The use of handles and feet create a totally different mood for the piece.



In addition to the many hours I spend making pottery, I also teach workshops several times a year. Hand Building, Making Tea Pots and Pitchers, Throwing and Altering, Marketing Your Art Work, and Basic Glaze Mixing, are some of the topics taught at the workshops. I have taught workshops at Duck Creek Pottery, Red Sky Gallery, Mint Hill Arts, Pottery 51, Rising Sun Pottery in Lincolnton, NC, Wild Acres in Little Switzerland, NC and John C Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC. Check my Upcoming Events page for any upcoming workshops. It is most important for an artist to enjoy the work that she spends so many hours planning and creating. The pleasure of creating is pronounced in the work of art.

Minutes from March 2019

Meeting:

- Please note the NCSU Craft Center will be closed for spring break March 9-17th
- Artspllosure is May 17 and May 18. There is a \$50 nonrefundable deposit for those would like to sell at Artspllosure. Depending on the final number of people who participate, the overall cost of the \$1440 tent fee will be split over that amount of participants less the \$50 deposit.
- **CORA, the Chatham Outreach Alliance**, Empty Bowls event was a success and thank you to all who supported the event. Ronni Theeman has also been collecting bowls for Durham Urban Ministries and has already made one delivery to Claymakers. The Durham Empty Bowls event is Thursday, March 7. Thank you Ronni for being our wings throughout the Triangle.
- TPG member, Jay Levine is requesting for bowls for an online auction that is scheduled to take place in May to support Homework Haven, an organization he has been heading for over 10 years that serves children in south Raleigh. Jay has been tirelessly working helping kids with homework, making a connection and mentoring. Please consider donating a piece of pottery! You can drop off at the Craft Center or contact Jay! Please take a look at the wonderful organization! <http://homeworkhaven.org/>
- Neal O'Briant and his committee are still looking for a Corresponding Secretary for next year. All interested, please contact Neal! Again, no new officer will be left by the predecessor without a proper turnover!
- Demo request came in and Rhonda Garrison asked for volunteers. The event is at Millbrook High School on April 25th from 5:00-7:00. The event is a Career Day run by the Arts and Sciences department. Please remember
- Jan Valletta has two kilns for sale, any interested parties can contact Jan directly or through the outreach listserv.
- Edge Barnes and Audrey gave the update on the upcoming opening of Ceramica. The location is 604 Chatham Street, Cary and is under construction. They are hopeful for the end of the month or April opening.
- Library: if any members check our library listing (on line in the resources section – all items in the library are listed there) and see a video or book they think would be a good addition, please contact our librarian, Kenneth Neilson.
- February meeting minutes were approved.
- We had one visitor and one new member! Both have many years of experience and we look forward to working with them and seeing them on a regular basis.
- Thank you Jan Valletta for the wonderful snacks – people are requesting your graham cracker dessert recipe! Perhaps you can send it out via list serv!!!
- April Snack: Patty Merrell.

News:

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