

Clay Notes

DECEMBER 2008

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 or 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, 516 Brickhaven Drive, Raleigh, NC.

Visitors are welcome!

TPG BOARD

President

Alice DeLisle
919-662-9310
wanderland@att.net

Vice President

Jo Ellen Westmoreland
jo_westmoreland@ncsu.edu

Corresponding

Secretary

Ray Weeks
919-368-7319
weeksrw@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Carol Clark
cdebclark@msn.com

Recording Secretary

Jayne Cluggish
jaynecluggish@uno.com

Librarian

Nancy Schecter
schectern@mindspring.com



Raku Firing

NEXT TPG MEETING

Date: Saturday, December 13th
Location: Alice DeLisle's home,
6721 Walnut Cove Dr., Raleigh

TPG RAKU PARTY

Instead of our regular Tuesday meeting in December, the TPG will be having a

Holiday Potluck Dinner & Raku Firing Party

**Saturday, Dec. 13,
12:00 – 4:00 PM**
at Alice DeLisle's home*

Come have fun, bring your folding chair, and a potluck dish to share!

Dinnerware and drinks will be provided.

Raku firings will begin at noon and we will start eating at 1:00 pm.

Those who have been in TPG for a while will undoubtedly remember the TPG Holiday Raku parties at Brita Tate's. In keeping with that tradition, Conrad Weiser will make Brita's famous Swedish Glögg, a traditional Nordic holiday drink of hot, mulled wine with some other things thrown in!

For those who wish to Raku:

Alice will have 2 small trashcans, sawdust, 1 pair of tongs, 2 pairs of gloves, and she will make 2-3 glazes. We ask for others who have them to please bring cans, tongs, gloves, newspapers, and a small amount of glaze to share. For your safety, please wear cotton clothing, closed-toe shoes, and tie back any long hair. We suggest that you bring

no more than 3 pots per person. Small to medium size pots will fire best in Alice's kiln (~8" x 8" or smaller). No large pots, please.

RSVP please: So that we will have enough tables, dinnerware, drinks, etc. – please let us know if you coming, if you are bringing family or a guest, & if you plan to Raku. RSVP to mailto:jo_westmoreland@ncsu.edu. Thanks!

*Directions to Alice's house:

6721 Walnut Cove Dr., Raleigh,
27603

919-662-9310

The house is a white ranch with black shutters. It is on a corner so you can park in the driveway, in front of the house, or on the street next to it.

From Raleigh:

Take Lake Wheeler Rd. south to 1010. Turn left on 1010.

Turn right at Old Stage Rd. When Old Stage Rd. bends to the right and there is a fork to the left, go left (Rock Service Station Rd.).

After 2-3 miles, there is a stone subdivision marker on the right for Brookstone. Turn right.

The house is about 1/2 mile down on the left.

From Fuquay-Varina:

Go east on Hwy 42.

Turn left on Rock Service Station Rd. (there is a stoplight).

Go about 1 mile and turn left into Brookstone subdivision.

The house is about 1/2 mile down on the left.

From Clayton:

Go west on Hwy 42.

Turn right on Rock Service Station Rd. (there is a stoplight).

Go about 1 mile and turn left into Brookstone subdivision.

The house is about 1/2 mile down on the left.



Raku Fired Pot

MINUTES NOV MTG

I. Alice welcomed returning members, new members and visitors. There was one visitor who spoke about her work.

II. Old Business:

A. Oct. meeting minutes approved.

B. Nancy Schecter gave a Library report. There were two new books. She is working on shelving ideas for the new Craft Center space.

C. Carol Clark gave a Treasurer's report. There are 65 paid members. The Guild traditionally takes new members until after the December meeting, so please send in your dues before then. She will then compile a member's list for all. The Finance Committee will review all budget requests before presentation to the Board and membership.

D. JoEllen Westmoreland announced that Alice DeLisle will host the Dec. raku party. This will be the Dec. meeting, and will be held on either Dec. 6 or 13. We need a kilnmaster to oversee the firing. It will be in the late afternoon, and will include a pot-luck dinner. All are invited, even if you are not considering firing any pieces. Alice is looking for another kiln for this event. Contact her if you can help.

E. Mary Ann Purser asked that anyone who has tiles for the Urban Ministries tile installation to please bring them back to the

Craft Center or to the next meeting. All of the center tiles have been painted.

F. Mary Ann also spoke about the Urban Ministries Stone Soup Supper, which will be held on Tues. Nov. 18. She requested volunteers for the night of the dinner to help give information about pottery. JoEllen is still taking bowl donations at the Craft Center.

G. Jayne Cluggish made an announcement about the Bruce Metcalf lecture at the Gregg Museum in the Talley Student Center on the NC State campus. It will be on 10/8/08 at 7:00pm.

III. New Business:

A. Requests for volunteer demonstrations will be put in the newsletter. People spoke about positive and negative experiences. Alice asked members to send her information about their experiences and she will compile them. We are looking for a person who will organize information and field these types of requests for the Guild.

B. There were announcements about the Dan Finch Open House, and also Cynthia Aldrich invited all to her open house.

C. JoEllen had postcards for the Craft Center Fair on Nov. 22. She also announced that the Craft Center has fabric samples available for anyone who is interested.

D. Susan Filley was introduced as the presenter for the evening. She lives in Chapel Hill. She had handouts for the members containing information about her slips, colors and glazes. She gave a slide show and demonstrated some of her painting techniques on porcelain.

URBAN MINISTRIES

I just wanted to thank your group for the wonderful bowls that were so kindly donated to the Urban Ministries Stone Soup

Supper last week. It was a thrill to pick out my favorites (like a kid in a candy shop!) I have no doubt that your bowls helped U.M. to bring in much more money than they would have otherwise. Thanks again for your generosity.

Sincerely,
Barbara Bonin

WALL TILES

URGENT REMINDER: Please return your tiles for the wall mural at Urban Ministries. All the other tiles have been completed and we are just waiting on the individual squares so the project can be completed.

CALENDAR REQUEST

Reminder: Please send dates of pottery, art and/or craft shows that you participate in or especially enjoy. I will start a calendar so we can be aware of events and avoid duplicating dates for our own events. These will be listed in Claynotes. Send to Susan Luster at susisolar@aol.com

CLAYFEST WRAP UP

Clayfest Debrief Notes October 8, 2008

Signage

Needed more and better and more specific
Needed signage at other end of building and in middle
Add a lot of signs all over the middle aisles indicating that Clayfest is this direction (with arrows)
Post on the bathrooms also

Educational display

This was a strong component. Well done.
Good location on aisle.
Display currently stored at Alice's.

Demos

Fun!

Neat having 2 wheels.
Folks really seemed to enjoy the trimming, they had mostly seen people throwing, and this was totally new to them.

The games attracted crowds every time we did one. Next time we should have more, they were fun for all when we finally got over our embarrassment at being so foolish.

Maybe handbuilding should face the middle aisle also with a pocket for sculpture (like Gail did) behind the handbuilding so as to draw folks into our space more.

Thanks to Elise for MCing the games. She did a great job and the games were a hit with the crowd.

Need rubber floor mat for handbuilders.

Poster of times of competitions. Need to organize who is going to do what demos further in advance.

Susan has about 75# of leftover clay from Highwater Clays for our next event.

Need better handling of pots.

Donna—several cracked when drying.

Throw slower (when not competing)

Stop throwing before the end so there is time to clean up.

The demo area was perfect in terms of space for people to see, kids table moved to the middle aisle was a brilliant idea, very inviting.

Thrown pot mural:

Elise: I feel positive about the thrown pot mural. If it is not too much trouble, this might become a traditional thing we do at events like Artsposure etc. and sell off the fired ones, just a thought, how much work was it, Cheryl?

Cheryl: Mural was a fun idea and because of the moving it problem, I would not do this again. I most likely would do it as a fun project for the potters at a permanent location so the pieces can dry undisturbed. (I had two parts of the current mural crack apart and I'm still going to incorporate them into the mural if possible) I don't think I explained it very well but, feel an obligation to complete it since the TPG authorized funds for it. I'm willing to do that and I will indeed get Ray a day and time

to post for folks to come have fun making more mural additions.

Kids

Finger painting fun.

Better than wasting money on air dry clay.

Layout of booths

Put kids at far end to get people down there?

The size and layout was great for the first year. The shelves worked great as Jan laid them out.

I heard a couple of folks who were selling lament that they were on the back wall and the traffic of folks didn't reach back that far. Maybe we open a small aisle at the far end of the shelves to let more folks enter down there. (This would need to be coupled with "guards" if you will to make sure no one walked off without paying.

Costs

A complete listing of costs from Carol would be useful. She paid the market \$60 (it will be more next year—they have raised the rates and we got a deal under the old price).

Spend part of what we spent on postcards instead on a real ad.

Date conflict

Conflicted with Under the Oaks. Susan offered to create master calendar over the winter of all major events.

Selling/working

Everyone who sells needs to work

Need to have work schedule done in advance

Clean up

Need clean up committee.

Donna got stuck cleaning up not only her wheel but the whole demo area, needed help, everyone was scurrying to get home.

Cash table

Carol wants to train a couple of people to be regulars to help share this burden. She would like a core group of money handlers.

Records were well kept and

money disbursed quickly.

Move the cash table closer to the shelves (if not right in the middle at the open end of the shelves) as people are exiting out several looked confused about who to pay.

How about a balloon above the table saying "PAY HERE".

Promotion

In addition to post cards, place one ad in the N&O on the Friday (day before) for the festival.

There was a huge quantity of postcards leftover. Consider a very small print run next year.

Jan, Alice and others sent out loads of announcements to the media. We don't know their effect.

General:

The public found art where they didn't expect it. Maybe we should do more surprise art venues. (Jayne)

Several people said that even though they didn't make a lot of money, the whole day was a lot of fun

Request of Monica (Farmers Market coordinator) next year that our placement be toward the middle of the building and not at the end?

She is pretty accommodating but her regulars may not be so—many have permanent spots but we could ask.

WORKSHOPS

John Britt Workshop

information is available at

www.johnbrittpottery.com/wks.htm

Workshops being offered in 2009 include:

Making Glazes from Natural Materials

Basic Glaze Chemistry and Raw Materials

Basic Glaze Chemistry and Raw Materials/ Cone 10

Reduction Firing Workshop

Oil Spot Firing Workshop

Bill van Guilder Workshop

I am a member of the TPG and would like to let everyone know about a workshop we will be hosting in February. We will be having Bill van Guilder for a three day workshop, February

20-22, at our studio in Calabash, NC. Bill will be demonstrating 50-60 throwing and hand-building techniques. The fee is \$225 which includes a light breakfast and lunch each day. There are plenty of hotels in the area and in February the rates are pretty good. If people are interested they can contact us at info@jeffcoatpottery.com or call 910-579-2400. Thanks. Cody A. Jeffcoat

DEAD SEA SCROLLS

We had a great time working with the kids at the Qumran event in October. Since it was such a great success, the museum is hosting another event for Home School kids on Tuesday December 9th. We need your help to make it work, and we are looking for potters, and weavers to conduct demos and help with hands on activities. If you can help, please let us know as soon as possible. Thanks Jay. jay_levine@ncsu.edu

OPPORTUNITIES

Carolina Preserve, Bradford Hall Recreation Center in Cary, NC will be having a clay demonstration of wheel and hand-building one evening in January in their new studio. (Date still to be confirmed - possibly Tues., Jan 20th or 27th or Fri., Jan. 23rd) Time will be from 7:30 pm to 9 pm. I'd like to invite two TPG members to come and demo with me, one hand-builder, one wheel. Clay and wheels supplied. (Hand-builder demo can be as simple as fancy pinch pots. There isn't much in the studio yet, hopefully a slab roller by Jan.) We will leave from my home in Raleigh at 5:30 pm and car pool in my car. We will bring 10 pieces of our completed pottery to show and sell. I'll supply the shelves. Questions and to participate: please contact Cheryl Weisz at: 919-218-2440 daytimes from 9am - 4pm.

Some More Mural Fun

Anyone wishing to continue to assist with the mural (that was begun at ClayFest) by throwing some more pots and dropping them onto boards are invited to call Cheryl Weisz anytime during the day at 919-218-2440. We can set up a day and time when you can come play in my studio, use my clay and help me finish this project. I would like to have it complete by end of year. It would be nice to have a variety of pots. The ones from Clayfest will be fired when we have enough to fill a kiln. (As a bribe I'll bake some of my famous cookies and we'll make a party out of it.) Do call and do come.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Bill Newton had a face jug accepted in the *Arts and Cultural Alliance National Juried Exhibition of 2008* in Knoxville TN. The piece titled "Anything Going On Back There" will be on display from December 15 thru January 14 2009 at the Emporium Center with reception on Friday, 5:00 until 9:00 PM on January 2.



Po-Wen Liu. I am a new member and here are few information coming up with my pottery related activities:

1) I am having a group show at *Claymaker gallery* in Durham from November 1st to January 31st. The show is called: Turning Points: A Gallery Re-Opening Celebration.

2) I will be in *Green Hill Center for NC Art Winter Show* from December 7th to December 31st. The gallery is located in Greensboro Cultural Center.

3) I was working for Shimpco Ceramics before I moved to Greensboro in August. I am offering electric kiln services. If any guild members need kiln service, please feel free to contact me. I charge labor fee and travel expenses. If you need any further information about these shows, please let me know. powenliu@att.net

Cynthia Aldrich has two pieces being exhibited at *Salem College*, Winston-Salem in the show entitled "Reflections: Politics and Religion in Art".

REQUEST FROM THE LIBRARIAN

Please let me know if you have a book to recommend? Thanks. schectern@mindspring.com

WANTED

Hello, I got your name from the Triangle Potters Guild and our daughter is looking for a use electric wheel. Molly has taken classes at Freedom High School and at Western Piedmont College for 2 years in Morganton. She has an talent and like to do more. Any help would be great.

Henry J. Belada Jr.
1971 Sunnyside Dr.
Morganton, NC. 28655
828-433-5106 & Fax
woodchop7@aol.com

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