

ISSUE 21
11.11.08



CAROLINA
CLAY
GUILD
newsletter

**Guild Officers
2008**

President
Clay Trotter



Vice-President
Ray Welch



Secretary
Cindy Biles



Treasurer
Kim Shireman



Programs



Workshops
Pat Harden
Molly Lithgo



Publicity
Betsy Welch



Newsletter Editors
Debb McDaniel
Susan O'Leary

PRESIDENT'S Message

Hi everyone,

I hope everyone enjoyed our last meeting as much as I did! It was great to sit at a table with lots of fellow clay people and share ideas, thoughts and concerns. That is the wonderful part of being in the Clay Guild, having the opportunity to meet and share with one another.

In the beginning of my art career I felt that if I listened to my teachers or mentors then I would run the risk of losing the essence of what made my work my own. Often artist tend to be loners, striving on their own to develop their own sense of style and trying to achieve their personal best. These are very worthy goals and should be what each of us strives for, the perfecting of our craft, but what I have found with the loner approach is that it is extremely limiting. Subconsciously I was narrowing the paths where my work could go and therefore limiting my own creativity. This was the very thing that I feared the most with my work and in the end it was happening anyway!

The only cure that I have found is to surround you with good creative people and to share your thoughts and ideas. Each of us can take the same idea and make it our own. That idea then changes as it becomes part of us. One idea then becomes many, each one completely different than the next. That is the miracle of the Carolina Clay Guild. It is an opportunity for each of us to share those ideas and to be better at what we do!

I would like to thank Lorrie Anderson for sharing her glazing techniques and bringing her beautiful work. I am sure it gave all of us a new path to explore!

Also I am looking forward to our October program from Karen Lewit and Susan O'Leary on Fused Glass and Clay Tablescapes!

In closing I would like to remind everyone that elections of new officers will be held at the January 10 meeting and I ask that you please consider volunteering your time. The Guild's life is the participation of its members within the guild. That is the energy that keeps the guild alive and allows it to grow! Please consider giving the most precious gift of all, participate!

Happy Potting,
Clay

Annual Membership Meeting and High Water Clay Workshop

When: Saturday, January 10, 2009

Time: Workshop is 10:00am to 4:30pm, Membership Meeting will be held at 12:30 during the lunch break

Where: Center for Visual Artists Gallery, 2nd floor, Greensboro Cultural Center, 200 N Davie Street, Greensboro, NC – parking is free in the parking garage that is on Church Street

Cost: \$10.00 per person for the workshop

Opportunity: Pay your annual Carolina Clay Guild membership dues for 2009. \$20.00 for individual, \$25.00 for family membership

Lunch: Please bring your lunch - pack a sandwich – drinks will be provided. Also coffee and donuts in the morning!

Workshops Agenda:

Focus on Spectrum cone 4-6 glazes and decoration techniques.

- Dipping glaze series
- #1100 Series
- Super white pen and raised accent pens
- Underglaze pens

Introducing Amaco's new Potters' Choice glazes. Participants will be getting free samples of glazes. Mayco's low fire products that work for cones 4-6 Troubleshooting glaze problems like pinholes, blistering and crawling. Brief kiln talk "Make the best of your kiln at cone 6". Samples of most popular cone 6 clays. Each segment will have plenty of time for questions. The workshop will last for approximately 6 hours with some hands-on time. They will bring glaze samples. Participants should bring some bisque test pieces and brushes.

Hands-on is limited 50. So send your registration now! High Water Clay will have a table to sell products (Glazes, tools, t-shirts etc.) They will bring credit card machines.

FUN: An "almost free workshop" – where they give out free pottery stuff – and a Carolina Clay Guild meeting – what could be more fun??? Join us!!

Gas Kiln for Sale

Contact Leanne Pizio

leanne@triad.rr.com

Festivals

Gene and Latonna of Mud Duck Pottery supplied this list of local festivals.

March	Catawba Pottery and Antiques Festival Hickory, NC
April	Greensboro Spring Pottery Festival Greensboro, NC
May	Sanford Pottery Festival Sanford, NC
October	Burlon Craig Pottery Festival Vale, NC Greensboro Fall Pottery Festival Greensboro, NC
November	Carolina Pottery Festival Shelby, NC
December	Appalachian Pottery Festival Marion, NC

A couple of other shows that we have been invited to but haven't shown in are:

October	Southern Folk Art Festival Colfax NC
November	Dillsboro Pottery Festival Dillsboro, NC

River walk art festival, Bakersville, NC (I think this was the name and I don't remember what month) Editor Note: Bakersville Creek Walk Arts Festival was held September 20 – 21 this year. www.bakersvillefestival.com/exhibitors.htm

These are all I can think of at the moment, if I come up with some more I'll let you know.

If you have any questions give me a call: 336-786-9361 day, 336-789-7911 nights

Gene & Latonna
mudduck@mudduckpottery.net
www.mudduckpottery.net

Carolina Clay Guild News

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for submission to the next newsletter is February 6. If you want your article in the next newsletter, please forward to Debb McDaniel (debbsmcd@triad.rr.com)

Feast of Caring Urban Ministry

Dear Potter:

Thanks to everyone's participation, including the beautiful donated pottery, last year's Feast of Caring was a huge success. More than 2,000 people attended and more than \$80,000 was raised for Urban Ministry programs that serve the poor. Greensboro Urban Ministry is a faith-based social service agency which tries to meet basic human needs through our soup kitchen, food bank, emergency assistance, clothing bank, homeless shelters, substance abuse treatment programs and other related programs.

The Feast of Caring was the brainchild of several area potters who wanted to contribute. It is based on the "Empty Bowl" campaign initiated by potters in the United States to raise money for food for hungry people. Each of the last 16 years, around Thanksgiving, area potters have donated pottery and members of the community have gathered as our guests for a simple meal of homemade soup and bread. Volunteers make the soup and congregations donate the homemade bread.

This year's Feast of Caring will be held on Thursday, November 20th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at the First Baptist Church, 1000 W. Friendly Avenue in Greensboro. Again this year, we ask you to donate pottery for this event. We also invite you to come to the Feast of Caring, be our guest for a meal of homemade soup and bread, and see how your pottery is appreciated. We hope you can participate.

If you are able to donate pottery, you can bring them by our building anytime between now and November 20th. If it is inconvenient for you to bring them, please call and we will pick them up.

For more information or to arrange a pickup, please call Gail Gore-Lewis at (336)271-5959, ext. 305. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,
Gail Gore-Lewis
Director Volunteer Services
305 West Lee Street
Greensboro, NC 27405
(336) 271-5959 ext. 305
lewis@guministry.org

Mary Kay Botkins Workshop Review by Kelly Willard

I recently attended a Guild Meeting and was asked by Ray Welch to write a short article about the Mary Kay Botkins workshop. I am no writer but I will try.

Mary Kay handles clay like nobody I have ever seen. She begins construction of pots by throwing cut slabs of clay and compressing the clay with a rib, first, vertically and then horizontally. Once she has thrown her slab out ever so thin she is then ready to begin with patterns, darts, folds and seams. She is very thoughtful as to how all of these steps will affect the end result.

Mary Kay handles and treats the clay as though it were a piece of fabric. It was a lot of fun to work with clay in this manner. We were making pots that mimicked the folds like you'd see with Chinese dumplings. We made handles that were made like tortellini and Canoli. We also made pots with slabs cut into ovals and strips turned into rims. We assembled everything with lots of magic water; we then had a really cool lidded form with a tortellini on top. Mary Kay is a true believer in "Magic Water." Below is a recipe for "Magic Water" that was handed out in class.

Magic Water

3 tablespoons Sodium Silicate
5 grams Soda Ash
Mix Well.

This is used in place of slip!



**Carolina Clay Guild
August 9, 2008
Minutes**

President Clay Trotter called the meeting to order at 10:24. Members in attendance introduced themselves and talked briefly about their work. As they spoke, people asked questions, which led to discussions about clay choices, shows, and other aspects of the business of being an artist. For example, several artists said they are not participating in as many out of town shows, since gas, food and lodging expenses are so high.

Clay asked for volunteers for a nominating committee. Vice President Ray Welch listed current members of this committee: Tomas Thornberg, Marcy Maury, Molly Lithgo, and David Cole. He invited others to join as well. Since we will need to fill several officer positions, it would be good to have a slate by the October meeting so we can vote then or shortly thereafter.

Ray commented that we have had some great programs at our meetings, but since one of the guild's missions is educational, we need more people to attend.

Also, officers and members of the board need to assess the financial condition of the guild and determine whether we need to charge more for workshops so that we can keep operating. Since we are a member of the North Carolina Arts Council, there are grant funds available. Another possibility is to have a guild show with a percentage of sales going to the organization.

Lorrie Anderson, of Moose Hollow Pottery, demonstrated surface techniques for altering and glazing her pots.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned around 12:00N.

The Carolina Clay Guild meets at David Cole's studio on the second Saturday of every other month, from 10:00AM to noon. The remaining meeting for 2008 will be on October 11. There is no meeting in December.

**Carolina Clay Guild
October 11, 2008
Minutes**

President Clay Trotter called the meeting to order at 10:11AM. He announced that this would be our last meeting at David Cole's studio. Members thanked David for graciously hosting Guild meetings. Clay asked for suggestions for future meeting places. Ideas included the Greensboro Public Library, the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch and the Cultural Arts Center, also in Greensboro. Clay will present these options to the Board.

Members in attendance introduced themselves and talked briefly about their work.

The following members have to agree to serve as officers, terms beginning January 2009:

- President: David Slater
- Vice President: Pat Schurr
- Secretary: Kelly Willard

We still need a treasurer. Kim Shireman has served as treasurer for 4 years and can describe the responsibilities of the position. Molly Lithgo, Pat Harden and Jane Ralston will help set up workshops.

We need people to serve on the Program Committee. This committee lines up presenters to give demonstrations, talk about their work or lead us in hands-on projects after each regular meeting. Having good programs encourages more people to attend meetings and fulfills an important mission of the Guild: Education.

This brings up the issue of increasing our membership. There was some discussion on enhancing visibility for the Guild, including advertising in *Our State* and creating fliers for members to take to shows. Also, for the Guild to have operating expenses and be able to plan workshops, it is important for members to pay their dues early in the year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04AM.

For the program, Karen Lewit and Susan O'Leary brought several examples of kiln formed glass. They described the process of creating their art; including combining glass with clay in mixed media pieces.

There is no meeting in December. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2009.



CAROLINA
**CLAY
GUILD**

P.O. Box 5656
Greensboro, NC 27435

Carolina Clay Guild - Dues are Due

Dues are being collected for 2009. Pay now and be 'worry free' in 2009 (well for one small item!). Send your dues to
Carolina Clay Guild, PO Box 5656, Greensboro, NC 27435

CAROLINA CLAY GUILD MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership fees are due annually and cover the calendar year January - December.

Please select the type of membership that is applicable: _____ **Individual \$20.00** _____ **Individual & Spouse \$25.00**

Please mail your check with this completed form to:

Carolina Clay Guild, PO Box 5656, Greensboro, NC 27435

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail address _____

My ceramic interests are:

Would you like your contact information listed in the **Website Membership Directory**?

_____ **No** _____ **Yes** I would like the following information listed:

Name _____

Pottery Name _____

Address _____

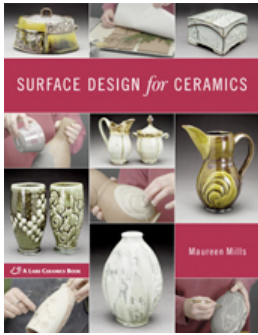
Phone number _____

Email address _____

New Book

“Surface Design for Ceramics” by Maureen Mills has recently been published by Lark Books. It has lots of great pottery and excellent pictures. But best of all – it has a horse-hair raku pot made by Carolina Clay Guild member – Gene Arnold! Way to go Gene. Helping to make our local potters famous – one picture at a time.

<http://www.larkbooks.com/catalog?isbn=1579908446>



For ceramists of any level, surface design is an essential skill for creating beautiful work. And this comprehensive and invaluable studio reference captures all the popular techniques available for embellishing clay. A wealth of practical information and detailed images lead you through every phase of the process—from the wet and leather-hard stages (faceting, carving, burnishing) through bisque ware (terra sigillata and slip work), to firing (glazing methods) and post-firing (decals, lusters, and raku). Because the procedures shown all require the same basic skill level, readers can dip in at any point. Time-tested recipes are offered in abundance, photos of fired demonstration pieces show the final effect, and top-quality contemporary gallery pictures display the fabulous results. Sidebars throughout offer options for further exploration. (Lark Book’s excerpt)

Small Carolina Clay Guild Holiday Sales Opportunity

The Blue Diamond Gallery is a lovely art gallery – on South Elm Street, Greensboro (across the street from where the 2 Art Chicks Gallery was located) – that has lots of paintings and no pottery. They have lovely hard wood floors and nice space for a reception. They would like to invite Carolina Clay Guild members to participate in a holiday sale. They have limited display space for pottery – and want to “start small”. So this first sale is open to the first ten potters who contact Debb McDaniel.

The date is Dec 12 and 13th. They would like ten potters to drop off five pieces each. They will keep 25% of the sales price. They will handle the sales and display of pottery. If you are interested and have five pieces of “similar style” (like five bowls, or five covered forms) and can drop off and then pick up unsold pieces the following week (they have very limited storage area) – please send an email to Debb McDaniel. debbsmcd@triad.rr.com It may be the start of bigger and better things!

Feast of Caring

Greensboro Urban Ministries will hold their Annual Feast of Caring on Thursday, Nov 20 at 1st Baptist Church on Friendly Avenue. Potters have always been an important part of this outreach program. We provide the bowls! Well – not really – soup is served in disposable bowls – but everyone who comes gets an opportunity to pick out a piece of pottery. The cost for attending is \$20.00 – and the soup is delicious (lots of choices) and attendees either pick out a piece of pottery or can choose Christmas card pack from Bill Mangum. To donate pottery for this important cause please call Gail at Urban Ministries 336-271-5959 ext 305. And watch WFMY on Thursday morning (11/20) to see Debb McDaniel throwing a pot while being interviewed. Thanks Debb!



Pictures from October Meeting



Clay Guild Proposed Officers

The Nominating Committee has come up with a slate of proposed officers for 2009-10. The Annual Membership Meeting will be held on 1/10/09 at the High Water Clay Workshop. Nominations will be taken from the floor at that meeting. Special thanks to the Nominating Committee: David Cole, Molly Lithgo, Thomas Thornburg, Marcy Maury.

2009 Nominated Clay Guild Officers

David Slater - President

I started collecting pottery over 25 years ago. Around 1996 I thought it would be fun to learn how to turn pottery. I started taking a class at Rockingham Community College (RCC) and have been turning and hand-building pottery since 1996. I have even been known to make a crazy-looking chicken upon occasion! The last several years I have been in the RCC Pottery Certification Program. I am now in my third year. I recently retired and am living in Madison, NC with my wife Diana. We have been restoring our 1840's house for quiet a few years – our target date is the year 2050! My pottery name is "Madison Mud Works." I look forward to working with everybody and serving the Carolina Clay Guild.

Patricia Schurr – Vice President

My interest in pottery began in the 60's in Miami, Fla. where I grew up, and years later moving to N.C. the interest grew much stronger as I became involved in the art community. I studied four years at UNCG followed by attending Penland School of Crafts and workshops with many accomplished potters. I enjoy working with my daughter Kelly who is quite a good potter and inspires me to keep going at my age. I live in Oak Ridge with my husband, who helps maintain our gas kiln and manages the business end of Burned Earth Studio. I'm also a multiple cancer survivor, and treasure my relationship with pottery each day! Family, Pottery, Gardening fills my life.

Kelly Willard – Secretary

I've been married for 25 years. I am a mother of two teenage boys. I love gardening, riding horses and making pots. My mother and I have worked together in the same studio for the past 12 years. Our studio/business is Burned Earth Studio, located in Oak Ridge. We make visual and functional pottery that is high-fired in a reduction gas kiln, and we also make our own glazes.

Debbie Sells – Treasurer

In 1997, I took my first pottery class at Sawtooth School for Visual Art in Winston-Salem and truly fell in love with the feel of wet clay in my hands. During the past 10 years, I've attended many local workshops sponsored by the Clay Guild that have been important stepping stones in my journey towards making functional pottery. My husband, Randy and I both enjoy making wheel-thrown pottery in our home studio (Homeplace Pottery) located in Kernersville. Since retiring from the "real world" in 2007, it's been exciting to have more time to play in the mud and to travel to various pottery and art/craft festivals promoting our pottery. I look forward to working with all the muddy folks in the Clay Guild, and serving as Co-Treasurer with Barbara MacInnes during the coming year.

Barbara MacInnes – Assistant Treasurer

A Massachusetts neighbor encouraged me to take her pottery class in 1971. After spending a week at Arrowmont in a handbuilding class, I knew handbuilding was my way to go. Having married and moved to North Carolina, I took classes with Pat Harden at GTCC and was an original member of the Mudd Daubbers (the organization that pre-dated the Carolina Clay Guild – twenty years ago.) I put clay aside while raising my family, and 20 some years later I pulled it out again. A wonderful year at the University of Oregon Craft Center exposed me to new materials, techniques and ideas. Handbuilding is still my love and Art Alliance with Susan O'Leary is my inspiration.

Registration High Water Clay Workshop

January 10, 2009

Please mail your check with this completed form to:
Carolina Clay Guild, PO Box 5656, Greensboro, NC 27435

Name _____

Address _____

Cost \$10 per person for the workshop. Check enclosed for workshop.

I've renewed my dues already!

My 2009 dues are also included! (Please include registration form)