



ClayFolk

NEWSLETTER

Sept.-Nov. 2015

**CLAYFOLK
PO Box 1334
JACKSONVILLE, OR 97530**

The Clayfolk Newsletter is published five times a year.

Deadlines for submissions are :

DEC 1 ----- FOR-----DEC/JAN

FEB 1 ----- FOR----- FEB/MAR

APRIL 1 ----- FOR----- APRIL/MAY/JUNE

JULY 1----- FOR----- JULY/AUG

SEPT 1 ----- FOR----- SEPT/OCT/NOV

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Message From the President

I write my president's message and send it off to my invaluable vice president, Jane. She writes back it is okay but she misses the touches of humor that she expects. I just can't seem to get it right. OK. Here goes. I'm tossing most of the verbiage and rewriting.

I asked a few members to put what they were doing into the newsletter. I did such a good a job that I got a message this morning from Sally that might mean that we have too much to go in the newsletter. Whoops. I email her. Is there going to be a place for the president's message?

I take out the long paragraph about how I went about coordinating the meeting dates and the newsletter deadlines. The bottom line was that both meeting and newsletter dates would have to be changed to accomplish that. That is, the May meeting would be changed to June and the July meeting changed to August. I will post the paragraph detailing the process and the proposed meeting schedule and newspaper dates on the Clayfolk website. The board will discuss this issue and decide at the next meeting. Would those people who would object to changing the May meeting to June and the July meeting to August please contact me at president@clayfolk.com before the next board meeting?

I'll keep this paragraph about the webpage. Now is a good time to learn the short cut to all the member information as you try to find the proposed meeting and newsletter dates. Go to the webpage – Clayfolk.org. Don't click on any of the buttons or links there. At least, I can't find anything that way. (Don't tell Vicki, the Webmaster) Scroll down that page to Member Quick Links. (I asked her to put that in for me, but you can use it too). Click on that link. It has everything listed that you as a member would want to know about. Scroll down to the bottom of that page. I will have Vicki post the proposed calendar for meetings and newsletter there. For those of you who do not have access to the internet and want the information, call me and I will mail it to you.

Now what am I going to do with the long paragraph related to filling the three open Member at Large positions on the board. Deadly serious and filled with statistics; it is truly humorless. The essence of the paragraph is the fact that we do have two volunteers from the Roseburg area. This indicates that some of our members to the north are willing to serve on

the board in spite of the long drive. Having one of them on the board would give members that do not live in the Rogue Valley proportional representation in decisions and in the work that needs to be done. Thus, the board will probably designate one of the Member at Large positions on the ballot to be for someone from Roseburg and north. I'll send out the statistics I used to support this decision via enews to the membership. No reason to throw away good stats. Again - no internet, contact me.

I hope you enjoy the expanded coverage of our members in the newsletter, use the opportunity to explore webpage, and love the statistics email. BTW - 40% of the show applicants this year live north of the Rogue Valley. Without them our show would not be nearly so big or diverse.

Hoping your days are filled with potting, Carole

New Security Measures Required

A major change in this year's Show involves security. Because of the planned attack on an Illinois Armory (and the subsequent attack on a Federal building in New York in August), all doors must be locked at all times, including during load-in and load-out, unless we have security personnel stationed at the doors. The Armory will have someone stationed in the lobby so load in can be done though the front doors. Load in on Thursday before the Show, will begin at noon and Jerry and I will serve as Security for the roll-up door at the back of the building. To use the four side doors, you will have to arrange for someone to wait at the door and open the door so you can come in (propping the doors open will not be allowed). There will be designated Aisle Hosts who will serve as Security at the back right-side door during the Show Friday night. Please rest assured that our Armory has not been threatened in any way, but the Federal government is requiring these cautionary security measures at ALL Federal Armories. By cooperating and working together, I know we can make security a small bump in the road during load-in and load out. I am looking into changes for the 2016 Show, which will make it easier for all of us.

Shirley Huft, Clayfolk Show Chair

Clayfolk Show and Sale

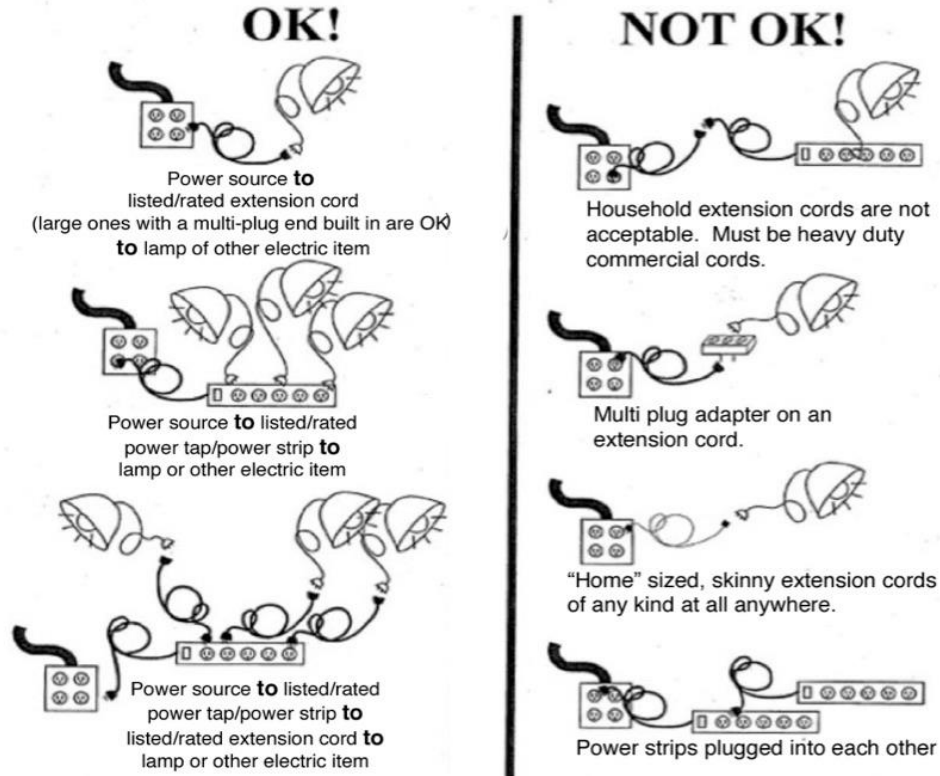
If you are participating in the 2015 Clayfolk Show and Sale or are on the wait list for the Show, please read the fire proof and electrical requirements and restriction. This information is also posted on our Website in the Members Only section.

There have been no changes since last year although there is **a new Fire Inspector** who will be checking our booths Friday afternoon. If you are using a pop-up, please remember that if the sides do not have a fireproof certification tag, they are NOT fireproofed. Twin sheets may be purchased for less than \$5.00 each at Walmart and can then be fireproofed.

If you have any questions, please email Jerry Huft at pigpenpots@aol.com or call at [541-415-1971](tel:541-415-1971).

Please note requirements for lighting and fireproofing for the 2015 Clayfolk Show:

Lighting: Extension cords must be three prong, grounded and at least 16-gauge (14 gauge is better). Power bars must be fused and UL approved. Attaching one power bar to another power bar is NOT allowed. In the past, a row of booths went dark so it's important that each booth does NOT exceed 500 watts. Group booth will be supplied with lighting. Pop up canopy frames (EZ-ups) are allowed without the top canopy, and with fire proofed sides.



Fabrics: All fabrics must be fireproofed. Unless treated with fire proofing material or unless they have a sticker, the side material on standard pop ups are NOT fireproof. The homemade recipe for natural fibers is 5 parts boric acid, 6 parts borax soap, 100 parts warm water by volume. Once dissolved, submerge the fabric in the solution. Hang up to dry. Do not dry in a clothes dryer Commercial sprays do not leave a white residue on the fabrics. Locally, you may purchase a MSDS certified spray fire proofing from **Roley's Pacific Supply in Grants Pass** 541-479-7578 (allow 3 days for shipping & ask for the MSDS certificate. **Flamort Co.** products can be ordered from www.flamort.com. 510-357-9494 (ask for the MSDS certificate) and **Firez Off**, an on-line Oklahoma company offers a certified spray at firezoff.com. or 405-702-0055. Last year, several of our members went together and purchased the fireproofing at the less expensive gallon price, saving money.

The 2015 Clayfolk Show is Just on the Horizon!

It is less than three months until the 2015 Clayfolk 40th Show and Sale. I've heard from many of you who are madly making pots in preparation for the Show. This is a good time to send out "reminders" to returning potters, potters new to the Show and other members who would like to help out at the Show. There have also been a couple of important changes and some exciting preparations for our 40th celebration.

Many of you are aware that we have added an additional four booths in the group area. We are excited about our new shelving and additional lighting. A big "thank you" to Marylou Schnoes, who will be sending out information to group booth participants. We have a new Fire Marshall and we want to start out on the right foot with her. I've posted the electrical and fire proofing information on the Clayfolk web page in the "participants" section. Please read everything over carefully and note that the plastic sides, which come with the pop-ups," are NOT fireproofed so cannot be used at the Show. And, of course, all changes in the participant and committee lists will be posted on the web site.

Our 40th Show is the perfect time to show our enthusiasm for our love of making pottery, as well as letting our community know how much we appreciate all the support we have received over the years. Cris Usher, in honor of our 40th Show, is organizing a contest where customers will vote for their favorite potter and favorite booth. Twenty-five dollars will be awarded to the two winners on Saturday afternoon. There will be cake for our customers Friday night, and I will be handing out balloons so that we can decorate our

booths for the celebration. A number of black and white photos will adorn our walls. Check out our website beginning in October for a walk down memory lane.

A few reminders: (1) Whether or not you are in the Show, you may work an extra shift and earn a point. Please contact me at pigpenpots@aol.com, 541-476-0593 or Jenny Harkins at jennyharkins@yahoo.com, (2) Make sure you sign in for work shifts on time and check in with the shift leader to avoid a penalty of \$25, (3) Guy Wood will be taking photographs and will have the photo booth set up on the mezzanine. Please contact him for an appointment at woodhillstudio@gmail.com, (4) If you cannot attend Booth Pick, please have someone there to pick your booth for you and act as your advocate. (5) At the Show, pre and post Show meetings are mandatory as are training meetings for people working in Sales, Price Tags, Greeters and Aisle Hosts, (6) Move-in packet will be sent out approximately two weeks prior to the Show.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at Booth Pick on October 18th at 2:30, in the Grants Pass Museum on G Street. Bookmarks, postcards and flyers will be handed out so that everyone can help advertise the Show. Please post photos and messages on the Clayfolk Facebook page, "like us," and mention us on Twitter. The more people who hear about the Show.....the more people who will show up. You are the foundation of the Show's success. Never forget that the tremendous success of this Show is a reflection of your combined enthusiasm and hard work.

MAKE MORE POTS...THE MORE YOU MAKE, THE MORE YOU'LL SELL!!

Shirley Huft Clayfolk Show Chair

Tip of the Month

The Dollar Tree currently sells 2.5-gallon zip-closure bags, five for a dollar. Measuring 37x40cm (14x15"), these have many uses in the ceramics studio, including use as a mini-"damp room" for greenware. When that store no longer carries them, larger supermarkets carry "Hefty" brand 2.5-gallon zip-closure bag. (This size, BTW, is also good for compacting travel clothing, the air in which you can evacuate by sitting on it as you finish the zip closing.) Marylou Schnoes

Empty Bowls Josephine County

Heidi, chair 786-566-9797

I want to share what we've been doing to generate community interest in Empty Bowls Josephine County. I was granted a generous donation of clay from Georgies in Portland towards the EMPTY BOWL PROJECT and held a THROW A THON at RCC. Continuing Ed. Students and fellow CLAYFOLK members participated in generating 60 bowls and several Silent Auction pieces from the Hand Builders. I know the handbuilders felt great to be a part of the effort without having to be behind the wheel!

A big thank you to: all those that came to the THROW A THON for their time and beautiful work donated; Ellen Johnson, from OPTIONS, lunch was great and we appreciate the tickets to the event; Georgie's, for the clay and continued support to the Pottery Community; and A HUGE Thank You to Phil Fishwick and RCC through whom the THROW A THON was made possible!

Lastly, there are less than 6 weeks left to receive your donations to go towards this year's event. Items can be dropped off at OPTIONS during normal business hours or a possible pick up in the GP area by contacting OPTIONS 1215 SW G Street Grants Pass 541-476-1526 POC Ellen Johnson



Southern Oregon Clay Distributors has moved to Talent and is under new ownership. Their hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 11-3. They will also take calls during their off days and hours in case you get in a pinch. The new address is 1134 Suncrest Drive, Talent Oregon. The phone number is 541-535-1311. New owners: Felix and Johnathan

Glazes! Glazes! Glazes!

As clay artists we are always looking for ways to make our ware convey a thought, exemplify beauty, or be unique. Glazes offer a way to create a feeling that your work is truly your own. Creating your own glazes adds a whole new aspect to your work as well the rewards of being the author of your own color pallet. This is a new column to explore techniques and tips of glaze creation and to share some the brainstorming that goes on at the Glaze Study Group.

This month I'll delve into the boring subject of record keeping. Unfortunately, not every glaze recipe or experiment we concoct and fire turns out successfully. Keeping track of failures is just as important as successes. Each time I mix up a batch and fire it on a test mouse or tile, I give it a number and then record that number on its own sheet in a 3 ring binder. I record the percentages of all the ingredients (of course), but also how it was fired. To get the most information from my test, I apply the glaze thinly in one area of the mouse and thick in another. If this is a glaze with colorants added, I dip the mouse in the mixture before the stain or oxides go in and then again with each additional colorant. This allows me to glean as much knowledge as I can with the least amount of effort. Example: If your recipe calls for 2% cobalt and 1% tin, you would dip once with no color, again with the cobalt and again after the tin is added. If you are not happy with the results, this knowledge can help you decide how to adjust the formula next time. Remember to get a glaze that suits your wants exactly, you almost always do multiple tests. Don't give experimenting is fun. Opening the kiln after firing test is truly like X-mas with all its joy and some of its disappointments. Wouldn't miss it for the world.

Please feel free to offer glaze tips, suggestions for topics or to attend the monthly Glaze Group.

jennyharkins@yahoo.com for more info.

2015 Library Purchases

Jackson County library system

<http://jclsrcc.librarycatalog.info/polaris/search/default.aspx?ctx=10.1033.0.0.1&type=Browse>

DVD's:

- "Form, Pattern and Underglaze"
- "Low Tech Clay High End Results"

Books:

- "It's Just Dirt"
- "Throwing"

Josephine Community Libraries

<http://josephine.polarislibrary.com/Search/default.aspx>

DVD:

- "Handbuilt Forms with Soft Slabs"
- "Darted and Decorated"
- "Precision Throwing and Intricate Carving"

Book:

- "Electric Kiln Ceramics"

New Products that Might Just Work

Amaco and Brent have redesigned the *handle on their Brent Clay Extruder HD*.

This solid welded steel clay extruder features a safety design. Two sets of clutch plates lock the clutch body assembly firmly in place at any height setting for maximum leverage. Pull up on the top plates to raise the handle and plunger, or pull down on the bottom plates to lower them.

This design also assures equal pressure with any amount of clay in the barrel. This sounds really useful.

The heavy-duty steel 4" diameter barrel holds up to 10 lbs. of clay.

Another recent innovation is a glaze infused wax that changes the underlying glazes: The Ceramic Shop's own *Mr. Mark's Wacky Wax* is an innovative product that allows you to simultaneously combine surface decoration with color and wax resist. *Mr. Mark's Wacky Wax* can be applied on bisque ware or on top of glazes. Once fired, the wax burns out but the colors remain. *Wacky Wax* is available in eight colors, and it combines the rich colors and effects of glaze with the resist properties of wax for speedier decorating.

Call me at 541-479-1349 if you find new or useful products to recommend to Clayfolk members. Roxanne Hunnicutt.

For sale: Show Booth Boxes for a full booth \$150, pottery glaze chemicals for \$175 (full lot only) NorthStar Extruder \$150.00

See Craigs list: Klamath Falls / Arts & Crafts for pictures
Call Alexis 541-892-9755 or Email: mash4077acj@charter.net

SECOND THURSDAY CLAY ARTISTS

Second Thursday Clay Artists (STCA) meets once a month to discuss clay issues. The activity varies. Sometimes there are projects and sometimes we just talk. We share glaze recipes and techniques. We take turns teaching each other. All are welcome; however, we do not provide studio space or firing services. Here are some examples of past projects:

- One member threw a bunch of hollow cones and we hand-built them into animal heads.
- One member demonstrated making a tile, enhancing it with colored terra sig and smoking it. We all made a tile using this technique.
- We brought a pot we really liked and described what we liked about it. This was to practice using art critique vocabulary.
- We all practiced using colored pencils, ceramic watercolor, and chalk.

Recently, one member extruded 6 inch tubes and we each made bird houses. These were offered for sale at our garden in the Grants Pass Art in the Garden tour and sale. (See photo.) We joined together to have a booth at the Rogue Valley Humane Society fundraiser Brews and Blues.

We meet at 1:00 on the second Thursday of each month, usually at the studio of Gwen Childs (call 541.955.8951 for directions). All are welcome.



Up-Coming Events

October

8th	Board Meeting	6:00	Thursday	<u>Abbey's Pizza – Rogue River</u>
17th	Chair Meeting	1:30	Saturday	(Prior to General Meeting)
	General Meeting	2:30		Grants Pass Museum of Art

CLAYFOLK SHOW & SALE – November 21, 22, 23

December

1st	Newsletter Deadline			
10th	Board Meeting	6:00	Thursday	<u>The Zajack's home</u> (set meeting dates for 2016)

More info at www.clayfolk.org Find us on Facebook at /ClayArtists