

Membership Meeting - July 21, 2014

Hostess –Debbie Raddatz-Thompson

Meeting called to order by Shirley Huft at 2:35.

Introduction of members:

Members introduced themselves and their Clayfolk jobs.

New member – Jeff Spindler

Open Board Position – Vice President – 6 points.

Shirley training for show chair, stepping down as president as not allowed to hold two board positions.

Carol Hayne will run for the president position. Carole has been receiving all the emails, chaired one meeting and has attended all meetings.

Vice president responsibilities include hosting meetings when the president is not available; edit newsletter when president not available; attend all board meetings; support president in board duties. Usually a three year position.

New membership chair – Claire Delffs.

Bounced emails.

At this time we only have one bounced email. Membership chair is trying to resolve the issue. In the past more emails have bounced. For members who get information only through E-news, make sure email address is current. If changes, please contact Don Clark. Make sure mail box is not full as this will bounce emails.

Show report

Show numbers – unbelievable amount of applicants with 19 people on the wait list at this time. In the past we usually have a few people drop from the show, often as many as 5-6. There is still a chance that wait-listed members may get into the show. Some have been put in the group booth.

Points – check points carefully. One error was already found. Reminder to sign in on attendance sheets at meetings. Contact president if points appear in error. If not sure of how to receive points, check website for the list of all positions and ways to earn points. The member's points need to be as correct as possible before October booth pick. Another copy of the points will go out to the membership before booth pick.

Conflicts – often members will be assigned to a committee that will conflict with what they requested. Jim and Shirley discussed committee placement. Many members requested committees that only require one person and other committees require seven.

Facebook promotions – Teri Nelson (not present at the meeting) will be working with the promotions committee. In the past she has set up an event page on Facebook. This year she will do things a little differently by arranging an event that will bounce to the top according to how many people like the site. This works as an advertisement and we can limit how much we pay.

Booth Pick – request as many members as possible attend the booth pick. If unable to attend members are asked to have someone advocate for them. There is no guarantee that members in half booths will have a booth behind them willing to share a popup. Being at the booth pick meeting will help people make these arrangements in advance and prevent disappointment later on. If unable to attend – have someone who is going to be present at the booth pick meeting pick the booth for you. Call any board member or another member to pick for you and give them information about your preferences. If not present and no advocate, Sh will pick booth. Cannot have the same booth two years in a row.

August 16 meeting for show chairs at Riverside Park in Grants Pass. Request as many show chairs as possible attend.

Promotions Committee

Bob Johnson requested the promotions committee meet for a few minutes after the general meeting today.

Would like to meet with anyone else who is involved with show publicity to coordinate regarding pictures, list of publications that we will purchase ads in (these are people who are not on the committee but involve this committee as well), etc.

Discussion regarding save-the-date cards. We have done these in the past but not this year. The committee feels it would be better to do colored bookmarks. This will require coordination with Bill, who is doing the poster, and we will not be able to get those printed until September. How many save-the-date cards in the past – possibly 3000 (these have always been black and white).

The board has given the committee a budget of \$150. We may be able to print 2000 bookmarks. If important to have bookmarks/save-the-date cards prior to September, for shows during the summer, Bob will be get something printed sooner than that.

Someone suggested we could have stickers put on the back of the bookmark as a reminder that the show is always the weekend before Thanksgiving.

Discussion: Use artwork from previous cards. Because they will be more attractive people will pick them up and more will be distributed without each member having to pass them out.

Information gathered last year indicated that many people picked up promotional materials at the libraries.

When will we likely get them – meeting in October. Can get them sooner if we do not coordinate with the poster. Bob could mail these to selected members who had places they wanted to put the sbook marks. Members could scan the bookmark and send via E-news. People in the Medford area can pick them up from Nancy.

Suggestions: Educating the public that we are always the weekend before Thanksgiving. Art code that will allow people to scan and go to the website.

Reason we switched meetings from Saturday to Sunday. Venues not available for Sundays – so moved to Saturday. Most of the meetings were at member's homes but lately they have moved to other places. The two venues for booth pick were not available on Sunday. This may be revisited next year. Most of the hosts wanted to arrange the meeting locations.

Other business:

Question: Can two members share one booth. Two people sharing a whole booth would pay for two halves – booth share per permission of the show chair. Member asking to share would have to have enough points and already be in the show to be eligible. Members would have virtually the same points, both people have applied for a half and full becomes available and two people decide to share.

Mistakes made in paperwork will be up to the show chair to investigate and resolve.

Discussion: Points list is updated all year and added to the member's total by May 31st. Adjustments need to be made by end of September a Points list will have to be finalized by booth pick.

If not in the show but volunteer to work at the show – will receive points. Member must contact the show chair or trainee about volunteering and be put on the list to be added to the work shifts. This needs to be done in advance. Email Jenny and let her know when you are available for shifts and she can put you in the places most needed. Need to be given previous permission to get points.

Program - tips shared amongst the potters.

1. Steel wool – use to clean bottoms of pots and clean spurs when carving on pots.
2. Learned in a class with Tea – how to throw large pots – Put little finger out to throw a straight pot.
3. To throw a knob on a porcelain pot, leave enough space for a large foot, use little trimming tool and trim the knob.
4. Faux chamois will work for hand trimming – use wet just like you use on the wheel.
5. Buy fishing bobs and attach chamois to it - it will float in the water and make the chamois easier to find.
6. Sheets of thin foam (Craft Foam) at the dollar store can be used to make patterns.
7. Use waxed candle string to fill hole of small beads and pendants for glazing without getting glaze in the holes.
8. Use Popsicle sticks to make fish gills.
9. To clean the spray gun between glazes, if the glazes are not too dissimilar in color, wash out by putting finger on end of sprayer and plugging all the holes and blow the air back through. A strong iron or cobalt might contaminate the next glaze. Can also be done by holding the whole sprayer gun under water and creating a back pressure.

10. Trouble with griffin grip clogging – soak in silicone spray and it will not stick, even when filled with nerdlles.
11. Make solar food dehydrator by rolling a 3/8-inch slab, create a design with rubber tubing filled with flour and pass back through the slab roller. Solid rubber tubing used by truckers for tarping will also work.
12. Flexosander (super grit abrasives) Sander paper in side with brushes on side can be put on a bench grinder to sand bottoms or rough edges. Not capable of removing glaze from bottom of pot but could remove kiln wash. Can be used on bisque ware.
13. Need more bats – tar paper can be made into little flexible bats. Attach to wheel with slip and cut off wheel instead of cutting pot off wheel. Let pot dry on the paper. Helps pot bottoms dry flat.
14. Use barbeque tongues to remove small items from Raku kiln. The tongs are lighter and easier to use.
15. Put a ruler on the top of a pot and using chopsticks marked every quarter inch measure height of pot on the inside. Turn pot over, put ruler on bottom of pot and use chopsticks marked every quarter of inch to measure height of pot on the outside. The difference is the thickness of the bottom.
16. Use 20-pound fishing wire to cut through clay like butter. Use the uncoated fishing wire.
17. End of a workday – hand care. Potters in Japan scrub hands with soft brush to remove all the clay residue and then apply lotion, moving down hands from wrists to increase sensitivity to bring them closer to their pots. Hands are the first tool.
18. When using thin slaps of porcelain use a Plaster of Paris slab that has been soaked in water. This dehumidifies the air above the slabs to keep them from drying as quickly and prolongs working time.
19. In high humidity make homemade dry boxes, i.e. old frig or other homemade box with a light bulb inside to dry clay.
20. To keep clay at the right moisture level – put the whole block in a bucket and take it out a day later
21. When purchasing a pallet of clay at a time in a wet environment, lie a cloth down, stack clay and put garbage cans over top – will stay moist for a year.

Go to website and check section of techniques. These items will be sent to Don Clark to be posted.