



ClayFolk

eNEWSLETTER JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2010

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

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News from the President

A big thank you to all who participated in this year's Clayfolk Show. This was the biggest and best show ever! All the chairs did a great job. We had a repeat of the Sunday Door Prize which was very well received. New this year was the Scholarship Raffle. On Saturday two winners were chosen to receive either a beautiful basket with a set of dishes, the other filled with a set of mugs and other coffee items. All items were donated by Clayfolk members. This year was Debora Mahannah's first year as Show Chair and she did an excellent job!

All Show Chairs - please update your notebooks with any new pertinent information. How quickly those details can fade. Also make notes of any suggestions you think would make the show better. The Chairs have a mandatory pre-meeting at the January 17th 2010 Potluck and Gift Exchange General Meeting. The Chairs' meeting is at 1PM

Potluck and Gift Exchange Sunday - January 17th 2010

This general meeting will be held at the Talent Fire House at 2:30PM. Please come and catch up on news, celebrate the success of the show and enjoy the potluck. If you'd like to participate in the gift exchange then please bring a wrapped ceramic piece. We will be reviewing committee chair and board positions open as of June 1st. Everyone is encouraged to consider serving on the board or other committee chair position. You are not required to live in Southern Oregon to participate.

The program scheduled for this get together will be presented by Nancy Ingram, long time Clayfolk member. She will show slides from her tile making class and discuss topics such as making unique tiles, one-of-a-kind murals, commercial tiles, and wall sculpture and hanging techniques. Don't miss out on all the fun!

Take the Talent exit, head into Talent. At the second stop light, turn right onto Hwy 99. The Fire House will be on your right just north of the Colver/Suncrest intersection. Hope to see you there!

Welcome to a New Member

Caroline Bouwense of Ashland

New Drop Off Place for Empty Bowls

Thanks to those who donated pots to Empty Bowls at the end of the show. The latest local newspapers tell how much the food banks need us to help them. I know many of you weren't ready with donations, so here are two drop-off places that will accept whatever you want to give :

- Carole Paquin in Central Point : Call 665-1333 to make arrangements.
- Randy's Southern Oregon Clay Distributors in Talent.
They're open Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
Call 535-1311 for more information.

Hannah Brehmer - Empty Bowls coordinator - 324-5938

hannah.b@mindspring.com

A New Gathering

Lynn Ledbetter is inviting persons interested in getting together to share ideas and experiences related to all aspects of working with clay. Those attending will determine the agenda, so bring lots of ideas. The meetings will take place on the second Thursday of each month beginning January 14th at 6:30PM. **The location will be at Illahe Gallery at the corner of 4th and "B" in Ashland (technically 215 Fourth Street).** This is a wonderful opportunity for all levels of "expertise". If you have any questions call Lynn at 541-482-3784

Editors' Book Review

Everyone is no doubt very busy with preparation for the coming holidays or still recuperating from the show. In any event there is much space in this addition of the newsletter that I have the editorial liberty to fill. I can think of nothing better to fill time or space (when not in the studio of course.) than with books, the old fashion paper-and-printed-word kind of books. So here are reviews of three very different books that have inspired both creativity and self-expression.

The Creative Spirit

by Daniel Goleman, Paul Kaufman and Michael Ray

Side-bar from the book : Thirteen year old Chester Greenwood may be making youy life a little warmer. Like a lot us nineteenth century Americans, Chester ice skates at he old pond with his friends and got pretty sick of having cold ears. Unlike other people, Chester is doing something about it. With some wire, cloth, padding and his grandmother's help, Chester has made a contraption to go over the top of his head. When he recently showed up at he pond wearing his invention, his friends laughed at how silly he looked, calling him "moose ears" repeatedly. But as it go colder, the children stopped laughing; they had to go inside. Chester kept on skating. Now they're the rage. The jury is out on what to call them ... Ear Fluffs?

Wabi-Sabi For Artists, Designers, Poets & Philosophers

By Leonard Koren

ISBN 1-880656-12-4

Wabi-Sabi is the quintessential Japanese aesthetic. It is a beauty of things imperfect, impermanent, and incomplete. It is a beauty of things modest and humble. It is a beauty of things unconventional.

Excerpt : The suggestion of natural process. Things wabi-sabi are expressions of time frozen. They are made of materials that are visibly vulnerable to the effects of weathering and human treatment. They record the sun, wind, rain, heat, and cold in a language of discoloration, rust, tarnish, stain, warping, shrinking, shriveling, and cracking. Their nicks, chips, bruises, scars, dents, peeling, and other forms of attrition are a testament to histories of use and misuse. Though things wabi-sabi may be on the point of dematerialization (or materialization) - extremely faint, fragile, or desiccated - they will possess an undiminished poise and strength of character.

Choosing Civility : The Twenty-five Rules of Considerate Conduct

By Dr. P.M. Forni

ISBN 0-312-30250-9

Excerpt : Speaking with consideration and kindness is at the heart of civil behavior. To speak kindly you need to be aware constantly that you are speaking to living, breathing, vulnerable human beings. Don't discount the power of your words. The thought that they might cause unnecessary hurt or discomfort should inform every conversation. When you speak kindly to others, you manage to keep them in mind as you speak—which means keeping at bay, at least for a while, the pressing demands of your own needs. By speaking with kindness you will improve the lives of those around you. Your words of kindness can inspire others, rescue them from despair, and reconcile them with life. Or, at the very least, you will lift their spirits and make their day more endurable.

The Spirit of Clay A Classic guide to ceramics

By Robert Piepenbury

ISBN 0-9628481-2-3

Excerpt : Play, in any form, is intuitive creativity in action. Inherent in our being is a vast plurality of feelings, images and intuitive responses that originate from the deepest levels of our inner knowledge. Through the freedom of play we are able to penetrate these levels and tap into the guiding force of our own knowledge, our own creative self.

"Trust that still small voice that says `This might work and I'll try it'" ~ Diane Mariechild

"Imagination is more important than knowledge" ~ Albert Einstein

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