



ClayFolk

NEWSLETTER Dec/Jan -2011

**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

Newsletter Editor Hannah Brehmer

newsletter@clayfolk.org

eNewsletter publisher Don Clarke

enews@clayfolk.org

Clayfolk Officers

President Shirley Huft

president@clayfolk.org

Vice President Penelope Dews

vicepresident@clayfolk.org

Secretary Lynita Zajack

secretary@clayfolk.org

Treasurer (Organization) Tish Manley

Treasurer (Show) Ray Foster

treasurer@clayfolk.org

Members at Large

Irene Stephens

Linda Smiley

Kazuko Young

Committee Chairs

Membership Don Clarke

membership@clayfolk.org

Empty Bowls Amy Segovia

emptybowls@clayfolk.org

Empty Bowls Josephine County,

Roxanne Hunnicutt

Show Chair Jim Keith

showchair@clayfolk.org

Points Claire and Bill Delffs

points@clayfolk.org

Workshops Phil Fishwick

workshops@clayfolk.org

Scholarship Bonnie Morgan

Program Chair Cheryl Weese

program@clayfolk.org

Library Linda Smiley

library@clayfolk.org

Splash Page Teri Nelson

Photo Booth Christine Wood

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Once again, the 2011 Clayfolk Annual Show and Sale was a huge success. A special thanks to all of you! The Show Chairs did an exceptional job making the Show run smoothly as did all of you who toiled away on committees and work shifts. Along with work on the Show, each of you produced an amazing amount of gorgeous pottery for our customers to buy. This Show could not be put on without the hard work exhibited by every one of you. After three years of guiding Clayfolk, our Show Chair, Debora Mahannah, stepped down and passed the torch to Jim Keith. Thank you, Debora, for your incredible effort as you faced the challenges of organizing the Show. You will be missed.

Our mandatory Chairs' meeting, Potluck and Gift Exchange will be held on Sunday, January 22nd. I look forward to seeing you.

Mandatory Chair Meeting

Sunday - January 22, 2012 - 1:30 PM

Talent Firehouse

Please update your notebooks and bring them to the meeting along with suggestions on how to make next year's Show even more outstanding. Write down your notes now as it's easy to forget. Comments from our membership will also be shared.

Potluck and Gift Exchange

Sunday - January 22, 2012 - 2:30 PM

An Agenda will be sent out via e-news to our members.

The general meeting will once again be held at the Talent Firehouse on Hwy 99, just north of the Colver/Suncrest intersection. It's our chance to catch up on news, celebrate the Show's success and enjoy the delicious potluck. To

participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped ceramic piece. Open Chair and Board positions for 2012 will, also, be reviewed. Remember...you do NOT have to pay your membership dues until January 2013.

Board Meeting

Thursday – December 8th – 6:00 pm

Rudy and Lynita Zajack's home

HOT PROGRAM FOR MARCH MEETING

The March Clayfolk general meeting/potluck will be at Marylou Schnoes' home, 5100 Lane Creek Road, Central Point on March 18th at 1:30. (Google maps will get you to the mailbox. Follow the red 5100 fire district signs to the house.)

Join other mad potters in watching their work go down in flames with a pit firing. Everyone who attends the meeting is invited to bring one or two (or more if they're small) pieces of pottery ready to fire. Wood is always welcome, but not required. If you haven't done a pit firing before, here (with thanks to the Hufts & Hannah Brehmer for their advice) are some tips for preparing your pottery:

1. Use cone 5 to 10 stoneware or any body that responds well to heat shock (e.g., a clay suitable for raku). Be sure to label your piece(s) with your individual signature/mark.
2. Large, thick pieces have a tendency to crack. Pottery can be made using the wheel, slab, pinch or coil. To avoid breakage, pieces should have no or few appendages and rims shouldn't be thin.
3. If you want your pottery to shine, when it is leather hard, rub a smooth stone, rubber rib or other smooth object. This pushes the grog under the surface of your piece.
4. When your pottery is bone dry, burnish it a second time. Smooth salad oil onto a 3 square-inch section of your pottery at a time. After it dries, it will look hazy. Rub a smooth stone, plastic bag or chamois over the pottery and it should develop a high shine.
5. Bisque fire your pottery at cone 010. If you bisque fire your pottery at too high a temperature, it will lose its shine when the grog resurfaces. Your pottery will still be fragile, so handle it carefully.
6. You can bring organic material to place over your pottery. Some people wrap pieces in straw, seaweed, fertilizer or other materials. You may also place copper wire on your pottery. The 1st weblink below has info on what colors various additives may produce. Wherever your pottery touches the sawdust on the bottom of the pit, it will turn black, so be sure to get it placed the way you want it. See the following for instructions on preparing your pit fired pottery:

http://www.claystation.com/technical/firing/pit_techniques/intro.html

<http://vickihardin.com/articles/pit-fire-ceramics.html>

<http://groups.csail.mit.edu/mac/users/adams/Pottery/pit.html>

For more advanced information on using Terra Sigillata and some great photos, see:

<http://www.robertcomptonpottery.com/Method%20of-Pit-Firing-Pottery.htm>

Fired pieces can be picked up at Marylou's house, or at the May meeting. If you let Marylou know, your work can be brought to the RCC Ceramics Studio at the rear of the Firehouse Art Center at 4th & H Streets in Grants Pass. Marylou Schnoes

'RAY, ROXY!

One of our own Clayfolk members, Roxanne Hunnicutt, has a photo of her large pit fired platter on the front of the new 2012 Potters Council Calendar. Congratulations, Roxanne, for having your piece chosen for this honor.

FOR SALE: 4 Old Style Burners

Email me and I will send a picture and measurements or specs. Set up for propane. Previously used with natural gas. \$100 or best offer Roxanne Hunnicutt 541 479 1349 Cell: 541 944 1349. Roxhun@gmail.com

OPEN LETTER TO ALL

Dear Clayfolk folks,
Just a note of thanks from the new girl! Your warm welcome, supportive comments and general good cheer during the Clayfolk show made me feel that I was a part of something wonderful - and you all are! Warm wishes to you from chilly Istanbul, where I'm checking out those crazy-good Iznik tiles - dude! Happy holidays, Cindra Vargas

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Alexis Campbell-Jansky from Klamath Falls, Oregon
Carol Ratliff from Riddle, Oregon

YOU MIGHT BE A POTTER IF.....

.....You have funny dents in your face from wearing a respirator.
.....You buy the strangest, most useless things because of their texture.

IN MEMORIAM

Our friend and fellow potter, Spencer Pentela passed away on August 23rd, 2011 after a long battle with cancer. Moving on to the next adventure. So many memories of this great man who truly lived life to the fullest and in the end channeled Frank Sinatra as he looked back on his life and sang: "I did it myyyyyy way!" Spencer really did. He disliked shoes, so he didn't wear them. He fell in love with Rosa, so he married her. He loved to make pottery, so he became a potter. His life story is full of adventures, love, friendship and many surprises.

Unique, wonderful Spencer with so many ideas, plans and projects, never afraid to try something new and bringing the rest of his family and friends with him in his pure enthusiasm. We love him and we miss him. Hugs and love to Rosa, David, Will, and Jordi.

Written by Nina Fernstrom Duong and Tea Duong

